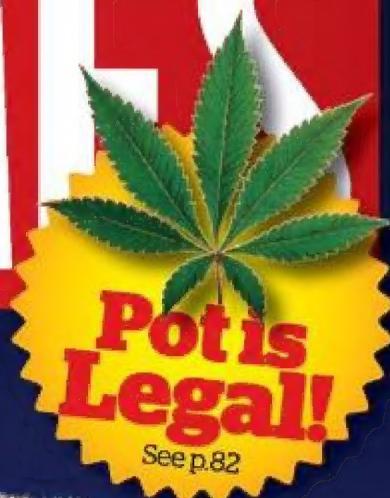


**Inside the Bunker Growroom**

# HIGH TIMES

March 446



## The Haze Craze

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SNL's

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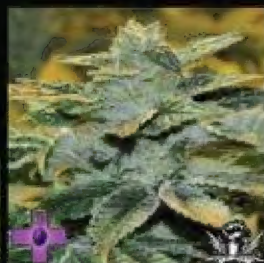
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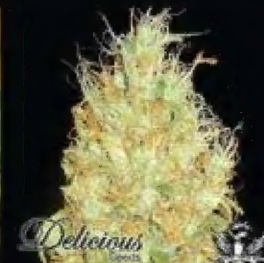
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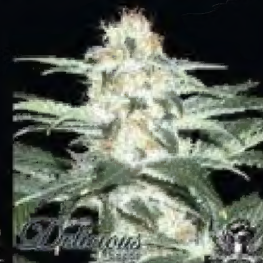
**OG RASKAL SEEDS**  
White fire



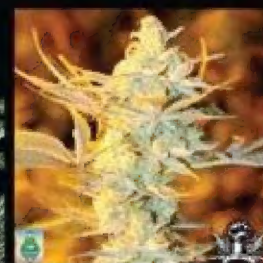
**GAGE GREEN**  
Pepe Le Dank



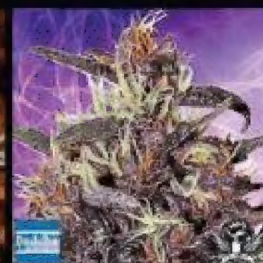
**DELICIOUS SEEDS**  
Fruity Chronic Juice



**DELICIOUS SEEDS**  
Critical Sensi Star



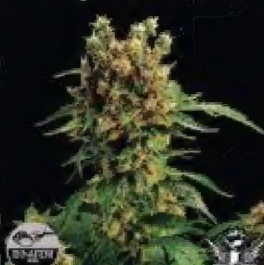
**BODHI SEEDS**  
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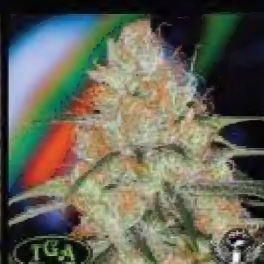
**BUDDHA SEEDS**  
White Dwarf



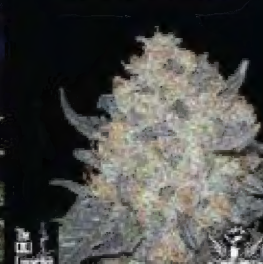
**TGA GENETICS**  
Ripped Bubba



**TGA GENETICS**  
Querkle



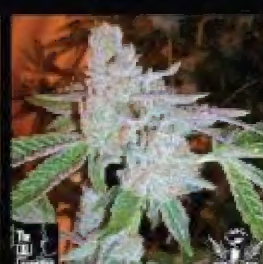
**TGA GENETICS**  
Vortex



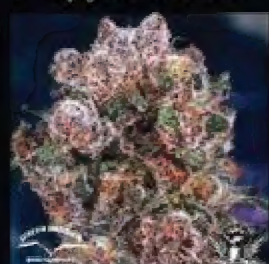
**CALL CONNECTION**  
Blackwater



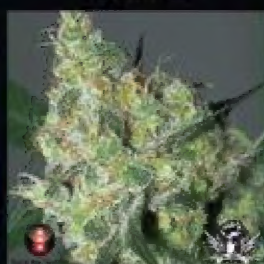
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818 Headband



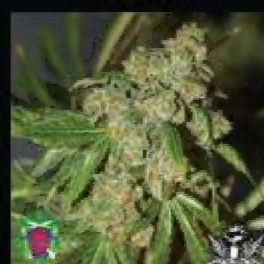
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Buddha Tahoe



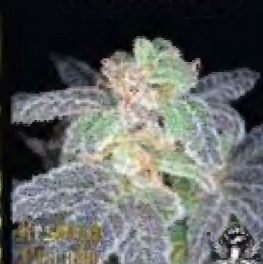
**DUTCH PASSION**  
Blueberry



**SERIOUS SEEDS**  
White Russian



**CONNOISSEUR GENETICS**  
Grateful Casey



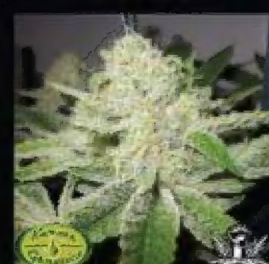
**RESERVA PRIVADA**  
OG #18



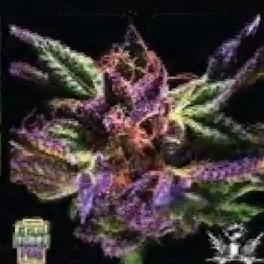
**HAZEMAN SEEDS**  
Elephant Stomper



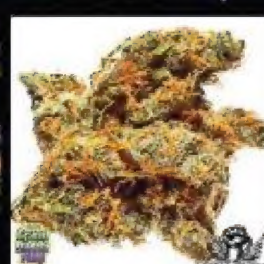
**H.S.O**  
Blue Dream



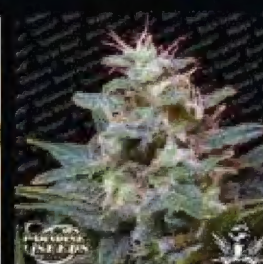
**KARMA GENETICS**  
Ghostlyder OG



**GRANDDADDY PURPLE**  
Granddaddy Purple



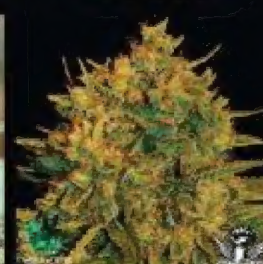
**GRANDDADDY PURPLE**  
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# HIGH TIMES MARCH



*It's difficult to get a handle on the precise value of California's annual cannabis harvest. Some estimates state \$3 billion to \$5 billion; others put the figure as high as \$14 billion.*

—Season of Green, page 50

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## 45 Pot and the NFL

No one escapes playing in the National Football League without injury. Many don't escape without becoming drug addicts as well. Players need the benefits of marijuana now!

*By Samantha Nicholas*

## 50 Season of Green

Over the past two years, prices for outdoor pot have taken a beating—but the crackdown on West Coast dispensaries and the rise of dabs made the harvest of 2012 memorable.

*By Dan Skye*

## 60 The Haze Craze

Danny Danko delves into the myths and lore surrounding the famous strain known as Haze, from its origins to the genetic descendants that keep winning Cannabis Cups all over the world.

## 72 Inside the Bud Bunker

Take a tour of one of the most unique gardens we have ever profiled—a state-of-the-art underground facility surrounded by concrete. This sealed atmosphere allows the grower to create the perfect environment. *By Erik Biksa*

## 82 Legalized It!

Voters in Colorado and Washington State made history with a full-frontal attack on pot prohibition. So is it time to “break out the Cheetos,” or will the Feds strike back? *By David Bienenstock*

## 90 High Times Interview: Eugene Jarecki

The greatest weapon against the War on Drugs is information, and in his new documentary *The House I Live In*, director Eugene Jarecki brings out the artillery. Can this decades-long battle finally come to an end? *By Tyler Stewart*





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# HIGH TIMES DIGITAL



Marbleslinger has advanced to the head of the glass.

## Free Weed From Danny Danko

Born on Long Island, NY in 1974, Marbleslinger was 19 when he hitchhiked from New York to Alaska. Somewhere on the trip, he realized that he didn't fit into the framework of mainstream society. After graduating from Ithaca College, he was introduced to flame-working through good friends. He diligently practiced on the torch, quit his job and began making pendants, marbles and pipes for a living. In 1997, he moved to Seattle to work with a collective of underground glass artists and became immersed in the growing subculture. Now a superstar in the glass art field, Marbleslinger has taught glassblowing in Canada, Japan and across the US, and has exhibited his work nationwide in group and solo shows. In 2011 he finished his feature-length documentary film *Degenerate Art*, an official selection of the 2012 SXSW Film Festival. *Degenerate Art* is now available on DVD, Blu-ray, iTunes and Netflix. See Marbleslinger's work at [hightimes.com/glassartists](http://hightimes.com/glassartists).



High on the air with Danny

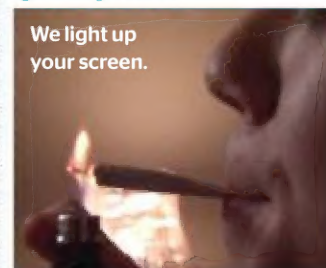
## Free Weed From Danny Danko

Tune in to a podcast that consistently scores high ratings. *High Times* senior cultivation editor Danny Danko regales his audience with wide knowledge of marijuana cultivation and welcomes guests from across the cannabis spectrum. Plus, he answers your burning questions on every show.

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## Miss March 2013

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PROFILE: [Rebgirl420](#)

AGE: 22

CITY: Herminie, PA

OCCUPATION: Paralegal student

To enter or rate contestants, go to [misshightimes.com](http://misshightimes.com). You must be 18 years or older to enter.

## POT POLL

# NO...52.5% yes...47.5%

How about a question regarding morality to really divide our readers? Last month, we asked, "If you were told that by your personal, singular act of giving up pot for the rest of your life it would thereby become free and legal for everyone else, would you?" Of the 440 respondents, 52.5 percent said no. The question inspired lively comments, but the reality is that, thankfully, no human being will ever have to make this decision. Even so, we'd like to continue the discussion. For part two of this morality question, visit [hightimes.com/polls](http://hightimes.com/polls).



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## Smells Like Victory



**W**hen renegade publisher, visionary political activist, cosmic prankster

and reefer revolutionary Thomas King Forçade founded this magazine in 1974, many of his contemporaries in the cannabis-smuggling underground firmly believed that marijuana would soon be legalized, with high times and justice for all!

But Forçade, a dedicated student of history, must have known better. Just because pot has no lethal dose, isn't

addictive and doesn't lead to violence or antisocial behavior, didn't mean a nation awash in alcohol would quickly—or easily—see the light and allow its citizens to spark up a joint in freedom. At least not so long as the federal government, for the most heinous of reasons, kept right on lying with impunity about this most beneficial of plants—abetted as always by its allies and assents in the corporate media.

In an early essay titled “What *High Times* Is All About,” Forçade explained that our side's path to victory therefore necessitated winning the hearts and minds of the people by effectively countering the “straight” press and its incessant propaganda.

“After all,” he wrote, “it was the media that made marijuana illegal! Their pot scare campaigns created the temporary popular support that made it politically expedient to outlaw marijuana.”

To fight back, Forçade created one of the most notorious magazines in the history of publishing, one that quickly became the world's most trusted news source for those interested in learning the suppressed truth about marijuana.

Nearly 40 years later, when the citizens of Colorado and Washington State voted by strong margins to approve the cultivation, sale and use of cannabis (see “Legalized It!,” page 82), I couldn't help but wonder what Forçade would've had to say on the subject. But since he's unfortunately no longer among the living, I had to settle for dedicating a victory joint to him and all my other heroes in the marijuana movement. I inhaled deep, exhaled happily and then watched the smoke rise up toward the sky.

Much work remains to be done until all share equally in this freedom, but I truly believe that we'll look back on this past election as the beginning of the end of pot prohibition—and the start of a bright, green future.

Highest Regards,

*David Bienenstock*  
West Coast Editor

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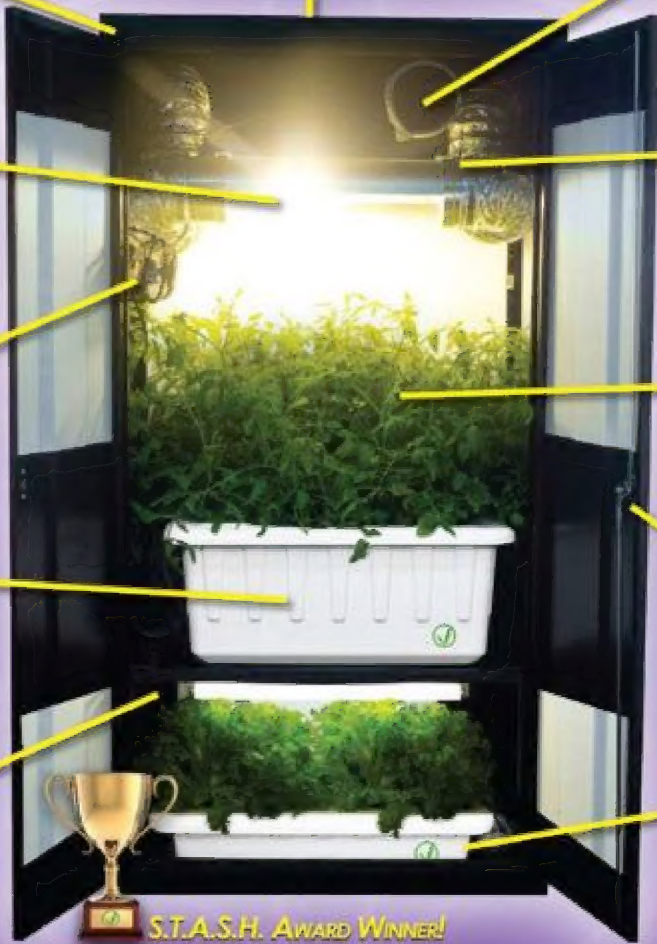
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**A Painkiller and Lifesaver**

*High Times* is great! It teaches me a lot about herb and the great things it does and all the ways that it helps people. I live in Maryland, on an island where there are just two ways on and off, so pot is hard to come by—and whenever I do find it, it's pricey. I use it for medical reasons: I have four herniated discs in my back and it hurts all the time. Football was my life, but it all got taken away from me because of my injury. The first time I got high was from second-hand smoke. I was in high school and my buddy smoked in his room. I didn't think it would affect me. Then, after sitting in my friend's chair for a couple minutes, I started to stand up and noticed that my back was feeling a lot better—and at the time, I hadn't felt that kind of relief in four years. I teared up a little bit. All those years of pain and sadness ended just because of a harmless plant. Pain pills didn't work, drinking didn't work, but weed did. These days, whenever I have a hard day physically, I smoke some pot. Then I get some sleep and feel great the next day.

Long story short, this plant has saved my life in so many ways. It gave me a chance to keep moving in life, and I'm so grateful that God put it on this earth. It's just a shame that people are stopping others from feeling better or just having fun. But your magazine is an inspiration to keep pushing along and doing what I believe in, and nobody can take that away from me. Thank you,

David

**Seedless in the States**

Now that Colorado and Washington have legalized adult recreational use and the possession of up to six plants per person, can we expect seed companies to sprout up in these two states? The UK and Canadian seed banks have a miserable success rate when it comes to deliveries in the US. I think if we had seed banks in this country, we could cut down on confiscated seeds. What are your thoughts?

Tom

We do expect that seed companies will set up and begin providing genetics in both Colorado and Washington, and we suspect that a few are doing so already. The problem is, they still won't be able to legally export seeds across state lines, so they'll most likely sell them only to people living in those two states. The residents of the other 48 will have to continue to rely on "middle man" companies willing to ship cannabis seeds to the US from places outside the country.



**It took our overrated government more than 40 years to figure out that weed is not a tool of the devil.**

**Burnham Red Eye**

I live in Maine, and I've been told that a famous local strain (Burnham Red Eye) has gone extinct. I've searched online trying to confirm this, but without much success. Can you tell me if Burnham Red Eye is still around and, if so, where I might find it? A lot of us here in Maine would be thankful—especially my uncle, who lost his specimens in a raid.

Pauly

We're not sure whether Burnham Red Eye is still around, but your story points up the need to share genetics and never hoard certain strains, since that way there's no chance of losing them forever to one particular raid.

**Unforgotten Hero**

Eight years ago, Colorado drug warriors killed my father over their "right" to prosecute me twice for the same grow. My father was a great person who made everyone's life better. Now that cannabis is legal in the state that has taken so much from my family, I'm not sure how I should feel about everything. I have a lot to say with regard to harm reduction versus prohibition, but I can't fit it all in this letter—though I will say this to all the smokers in Colorado: *You're welcome!!!!* Make sure you thank my father when you see him.

Sincerely,  
Michael

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We do thank your father, Michael, and all the other people out there who were

providing access to this plant when the stakes were literally life and death, in prison or otherwise. The next step, hopefully, will be getting amnesty for all the marijuana prisoners who were sentenced before the citizens of Colorado (and Washington State) finally saw the light and voted to legalize. Though all this comes too late for your father, the success of the legalization campaigns in those two states (and, we sincerely hope, many more in the future) would never have been possible without folks like him.

**The Wrong Cure**

First of all, *love* the magazine! It has served us well over the years, so please keep up the good work and keep fighting the good fight for the great weed! I have a simple question about a "cure" gone wrong. In 2010, I came upon a really good strain known as GDP. The pheno was *really*

purple, with white crystals and very little light green. I decided to save what I had and let it age/cure in a jar, and after a seven-month hiatus from medicating, I cracked it open and let 'er rip. To my surprise, the experience was disappointing, with little of the great flavor that I remembered: only a harsh taste and burning lungs followed by—*boom!*—a sudden (and long-lasting) high. What went wrong?

Highermath, CT

Without knowing the exact method you used for jarring and storing your bud, it's difficult to pinpoint what went wrong. There's a definite science to curing, though; a toker can't just seal up buds in a jar and expect them to be smokable seven months later. Your question inspired us to ask DJ Short, breeder supreme and inventor of the Blueberry strain, for his thoughts on the subject. Check out "The Long Cure" on page 56.

**Congrats to Colorado**

In 10 years a lot of us "old farts" will be sitting on the front porch talking and reminiscing about the time pot was illegal, and oh, what stories we will tell! Talk about slow learners—it took our overrated government more than 40 years to figure out that weed is not a tool of the devil. Marijuana is a gift from God and created for the betterment of all mankind.

Jane





## A Better Grow Box Means **Better Crops.**

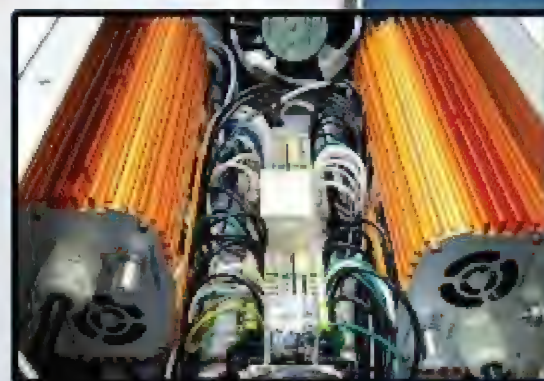
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**THE HAZE CRAZE** Senior cultivation editor Danny Danko investigates the myths and lore surrounding the spectacular *sativa* known as Haze (Jurassic Haze pictured here). Bonus: Top Ten Haze Strains of All Time! Check it all out starting on page 60. *Photo by Lochfoot*

**Contact  
High**









**INSIDE THE BUD BUNKER** Perhaps this grower was preparing for the Mayan Apocalypse? A nuclear armageddon? In such events, one would want to secure the herb supply—especially medicinal herb like this, as there would certainly be a lot of folks in need of medicine. What we have here is a genuine, poured-concrete, steel-reinforced bunker specifically designed for the cultivation of marijuana. Check it out on page 72. *Photo by Erik Biksa*

**Contact  
High**





**Contact  
High**

**A JARRING EXPERIENCE** Once harvest is over, growers can either sell their product immediately or store it in the hope that prices will rise later. Pot can be stored for years if done properly. Read about "long-curing" in "Season of Green" (page 50). *Photo by Dan Skye*











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# Highwitness News

Ex-Prez  
Bill Clinton  
says: "I was  
wrong!"



## Entertainment

### SNL's Jason Sudeikis

The comic actor calls on cannabis. p.27



## Food

### Marijuana Macarons

Stoner sweets make good eats. p.34



The Better farm crew cultivates plants as part of Israel's national medical marijuana program.

## Making a Stand

During the recent exchange of missiles in the Middle East, Israeli medical marijuana growers remained at their posts, making sure that their lifesaving cannabis survived. *By David Bienenstock*

**M**issiles had been filling the sky for days when Elad Spiegel's army reserve unit was called back into service by an emergency draft of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF). Within hours he contacted his commander, packed his bags, kissed his wife goodbye, and drove off for the legally operating medical marijuana production facility where he works full-time as head agronomist, charged with the care and nurturing of up to 3,000 cannabis plants at any given time. A graduate of Hebrew University with a Plant Science major, Spiegel needed to turn over his keys to the farm and his data log of the ongoing cultivation cycle before reporting for duty.

"Leaving my crew members behind to maintain the farm was a difficult but essential decision," he recalls, "which I could afford to make thanks to their

dedication to our cause and to our mutual adventure."

The latest wave of attacks between Israel and neighboring Gaza began on November 14, following an IDF operation that killed Hamas military commander Ahmed Jabari, a top leader of the group—classified as a terrorist organization by the US and the European Union—which has ruled in Gaza since 2007. In the week before a ceasefire took hold, Hamas fired more than 1,500 rockets into Israel, killing two Israeli soldiers and four civilians. IDF forces killed 161 Palestinians, including 71 civilians, according to the Associated Press.

"Even when rockets started flying directly overhead, it was clear to me that we couldn't leave," Tamir Adler, the farm's systems expert, said of the remaining three-man team's decision to stand

by their plants. "They would have simply died, and all of our work would have turned to trash. Meanwhile, the most important thing driving me—all of us—was to continue supplying medicine to our patients. I couldn't bear the thought of people that suffer great pain having to buy low-quality cannabis from drug dealers or taking dangerous pills."

One of seven locations under separate ownership currently growing medical marijuana as part of a national program overseen by Israel's Ministry of Health, the farm, located less than 10 miles from the Gaza Border, is operated by Better/Cann Pharmaceuticals, which took over the facility (previously used to grow roses) in 2009. The site's cultivation system was designed and implemented by Trichome Technologies, an award-winning team of medical marijuana growers and breeders from California committed to helping improve the quality and consistency of Israel's medical marijuana supply.

Purple Kush, White Widow Hash Plant, Lemon Skunk Kush, and other top strains grow in a quarter-acre greenhouse year-round, with additional cultivation taking place outdoors during the spring and summer months. Since water is a precious resource, all crops are drip-irrigated. Indoor plants mature perpetually every two weeks, which, combined with the outdoor crop, makes for a yield of more than 2,000 pounds annually; there are plans to expand in the near future.

"There were a couple times during the attacks when I considered going north, not out of fear for my personal safety, but due to the effect my physical proximity to the conflict was having on my parents, my little brother, and my friends back in Los Angeles," says Martin Orloff, a veteran of California's medical marijuana scene, and, at 23, the youngest member of the farm crew. "But this had to be a personal decision answered only by the heart. And my heart told me I needed to stay."

Although the farm is located in a



« fairly remote rural area, it's situated between five Israeli cities that were targeted for rocket attacks. With the government urging anyone within 30 miles of the Gaza border to relocate, schools and many businesses in the area closed, while those with bomb shelters went underground to wait out the hostilities. Meanwhile, the farm crew kept up a grueling 12 hour per day work schedule. Whenever the air raid sirens sounded, they took cover, often watching as nearby rockets were intercepted by Israel's "Iron Dome" defense system amid an ongoing cacophony of helicopters, missile launches and explosions. At night when they went home to rest, the highways were deserted, the markets all closed.

Yoash Sadeh, the facility's manager, was born on a kibbutz (collective farm) in the Jordan Valley. He's the grandson of Israeli settlers who worked at their own pioneering agriculture projects while under fire from Jordan and Syria. He says he thought of their history while working overtime during the week of heavy conflict.

"My teammates and I stayed and continued to give the plants all the love in the world." He says. "I was nearly

**"During those days, the work never ceased, only intensified, and the plants are beautiful and amazing as a result."**



oblivious to the noise outside at the time, because of the importance of maintaining our supply of medicine to patients. During those days, the work never ceased, only intensified, and the plants are beautiful and amazing as a result."

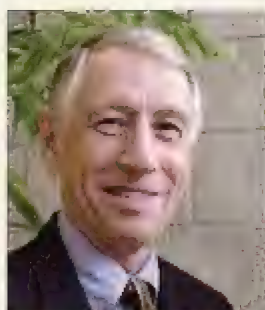
So far, a ceasefire negotiated on November 21 has largely held, with both sides halting their cross border attacks.

Meanwhile, the Israeli medical marijuana program continues its work of supplying more than 9,000 registered patients with cannabis, in a nation of less than eight million citizens. With Jews, Arabs, Christians and others enrolled in the program, perhaps marijuana can help bring not just healing, but also peace and understanding to the region. ✨

## HIGH FIVE

### The Science Guys

Top researchers are paving the way to make marijuana a mainstream medicine. *By Mark Miller*



#### DR. IGOR GRANT

Dr. Grant, director of the Center for Medicinal Cannabis Research at University of California-San Diego, recently oversaw a comprehensive set of studies mandated by the California Legislature to answer the taxpayer-funded \$8.7 million question: "Does marijuana have therapeutic value?" The answer turned out to be a resounding yes, with research running the gamut from conventional vaporizer studies to placing chili-pepper ingredients under the participants' skin to gauge ganja's ability to relieve pain. (It did.)



#### DR. DANIELE PIOMELLI

At the University of California-Irvine, Dr. Piomelli is investigating the potential of cannabinoids to reverse the effects of autism, the developmental disorder that strikes at least 11 children out of every 1,000 born in the US. In identifying key enzymes blocking endocannabinoid transmitters in the brain, Dr. Piomelli and his collaborators hope to improve the quality of life for those suffering from fragile X syndrome, the most common single-gene cause of autism.



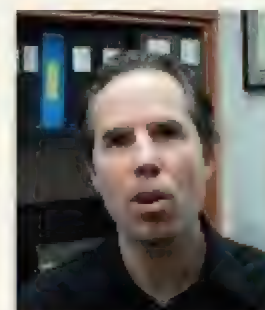
#### DR. RAPHAEL MECHOULAM

This dean of pot researchers was the first person to isolate THC, pot's psychoactive component, way back in 1964. But Dr. Mechoulam hasn't exactly been resting on his laurels since then: He's continued his cannabis research for decades at Jerusalem's Hebrew University (at the age of 82). His recent studies include investigating various cannabis compounds in order to combat Alzheimer's disease, protect the brain from head trauma, create an anti-tumor drug and treat post-traumatic stress disorder.



#### DR. DONALD ABRAMS

Dr. Abrams conducts consistently groundbreaking cannabis research at the University of California-San Francisco. One recent study of his found that inhaling cannabis relieves HIV-related nerve damage. Another found that combining medical marijuana with opiates (such as morphine and oxycodone) safely increases the patient's pain relief. Dr. Abrams has also lent his name and knowledge to the 10-year effort to reschedule cannabis under the federal Controlled Substances Act so that it can finally be approved for medical use.



#### DR. SEAN MCALLISTER

At San Francisco's Pacific Medical Center, Dr. McAllister is the scientist who discovered that a non-psychoactive cannabis compound—cannabidiol (CBD)—kills breast-cancer cells and malignant tumors by shutting down the expression of the normally dormant ID-1 gene, a key protein in cancer-cell conduction. He also found that CBD acts synergistically with an assortment of anti-cancer drugs, enhancing their efficacy while being completely nontoxic itself.



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## “We Were Wrong”

*Breaking the Taboo*, a new feature documentary from Sundog Pictures, exposes the harsh truth of modern Prohibition: “The War on Drugs has been raging for 40 years. Over a trillion dollars has been spent, millions of people imprisoned, and countless thousands killed. The illegal drug market is worth \$330-400 billion per year, drugs are cheaper and more prevalent than ever before, and in a growing number of countries drug cartels are the major threat to national security. Yet our governments carry on regardless.”

These truths have been known for years, but when two former US Presidents admit on-camera that their anti-drug policies failed, you know the times are a-changin’. Both Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton appear prominently in the film. Clinton states: “If all you do is try to find a police or military solution for the problem, a lot of people are going to die and it doesn’t solve the problem.”

Carter, who believes penalties for drug offenses are excessive, writes on the film’s website: “Penalties against possession of a drug should not be more damaging to an individual than the use of the drug itself.”

*Breaking the Taboo*, narrated by actor Morgan Freeman and backed by Richard Branson and a slew of top celebs, follows the Global Commission On Drugs Policy on its mission to break the political taboo, explore the controversial solutions and bravely demand a new agenda.

## Marijuana Momentum



Another indicator the nation is moving towards marijuana came with the latest CBS News poll that, for the first time, found the same percentage of Americans supporting pot legalization as those who oppose it. In a survey conducted Nov. 16-19 (following the Nov 6 legalization of recreational cannabis in both Washington and Colorado), 47 percent of those surveyed said pot use should be legal and 47 percent think it should remain criminalized. Those numbers are up from 45 percent in support of legal pot in September, prior to the legalization victories. Contrast that with the stats of 2011: Only 40 percent favored legal recreational pot, with 51 percent opposed.

Medical marijuana support is overwhelming with a record 83 percent in favor—up from 77 percent in 2011. Some cynicism about medical pot programs endures in those states that have legalized; only 29 percent believe it’s actually being used by patients afflicted with serious illnesses.

The poll reflected political divisions in America; 51 percent of Democrats and 55 percent of independent voters support legalization, while 66 percent of Republicans remain in the dark ages. Not surprisingly, the majority of young people age 18-44 want pot legal, while the older generation is in the minority. A solid 59 percent think state governments should determine the legality of weed as opposed to the federal government. However, that figure is actually down from 62 percent from the September pre-election poll.



## Must-See TV

Pay cable has long been the source for cannabis-centric TV programming. *You’ve got Weeds*, obviously, and series like *Breaking Bad* and *Entourage* that regularly feature pot. But now marijuana is breaking into the broadcast networks’ prime-time lineup!

FOX is currently developing *The Happy Tree*, brought to you by the producers of *Entourage*—including actor Mark Wahlberg, who took many a bong hit with his stuffed bear in the 2012 comedy *Ted*. *The Happy Tree* purports to tell the tale of a brilliant and upwardly mobile corporate lawyer who suffers a nervous breakdown and relocates to Venice Beach, CA, so he can chillax. But he’s soon transformed into an unlikely and outspoken advocate for pot legalization.

That the series is on FOX shouldn’t be too surprising. Sure, the company’s Fox News Channel deals primarily in right-wing propaganda, but shows like *The Simpsons* and *Family Guy* (created by *Ted* director Seth MacFarlane) routinely feature pot-tinged commentary and comedy. Here’s hoping *The Happy Tree* will provide edgy humor while focusing on some of the urgent elements of the legalization debate—mandatory minimums, taxes, pot DUI levels—and not just turn out to be a half-baked stoner sitcom.

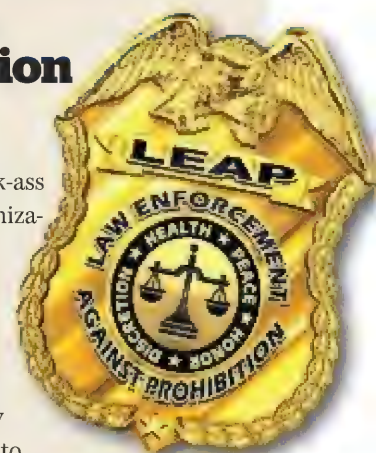
## Leap For Legalization

Law Enforcement Against Prohibition, a.k.a. LEAP—the kick-ass anti-Drug War organization composed of ex-cops and other law-enforcement types—has publicly urged President Obama and Attorney General Eric Holder to

“respect and abide by the democratically enacted laws to regulate marijuana in Colorado and Washington” after the two states legalized the recreational use of pot in November. In all, 73 current and former law-enforcement personnel signed the petition, which was delivered to Holder’s office at the Justice Department.

LEAP’s advocacy for legalization flies in the face of public statements by Raymond Yans, president of the United Nations’ International Narcotics Control Board, who urged the newly re-elected Obama to crack down on any attempts by Colorado and Washington to implement their recently passed voter initiatives. Yans opined that the legalizing pot sends “a wrong message to the rest of the nation and abroad.”

Of course, legalization does send a message: that the will of the people can overcome insane prohibition laws.





# Pot Crime Up In Smoke

In the state of Washington, hundreds of pot cases have been tossed by county prosecutors thanks to the retroactive application of Initiative 502, the ballot measure that legalized recreational pot use with nearly 56 percent of the vote. In the same week that I-502 was passed, Dan Satterberg, prosecutor for King County—the state’s most populous region, which includes the city of Seattle—announced that he was dismissing 175 pending pot-possession cases, despite the new law not going into effect until December 6. Satterberg wisely stated that he saw no point in prosecuting conduct that would be legal a month later.

Meanwhile, the prosecutor of Pierce County (the second most populous in the state) announced the dismissal of nearly 50 unresolved misdemeanor possession cases. After the larger counties took the plunge, prosecutors in Clark, Lincoln and Whitman counties likewise dropped charges against those 21 and older busted for less than an ounce. And Seattle City Attorney Pete Holmes has been way ahead of the curve—since 2010, he’s refused to prosecute any pot-possession cases in his jurisdiction.

However, Ferry County Prosecutor Michael Sandona promised to waste everyone’s time and money by continuing to prosecute 20 open pot cases. And while Spokane County Prosecutor Steve Tucker plans on dropping his office’s pending possession cases, the chief deputy criminal prosecutor, Jack Driscoll, has insisted on a strict interpretation of I-502, maintaining that under the law, recreational pot won’t technically be legal for *anyone* until December 1, 2013, when the state’s licensed weed stores—the only legal source of pot in Washington—are officially open for business.



## Grower's Delight

The 2012 California outdoor harvest brought joy for two reasons. Prices are up and busts are down. DEA stats indicate that state and federal law enforcement agencies eradicated an estimated 1.5 million plants from outdoor gardens, mostly on public land, down from a decade high of about 7.3 million plants in 2009. This year's seizures would be the lowest since 2004, when just over 1.1 million plants were eradicated.

## Canadian Pot Support Grows

A national poll issued in November by Forum Research out of Toronto reports that a “supermajority”—65 percent of all Canadians—supports decriminalization, if not the outright legalization and taxation of marijuana. Forum Research conducted a phone survey of 1,849 Canadians and found that the country’s anti-pot generation appears to be dying off—or at least experiencing a rational change of heart—as only 17 percent of those polled believe that Canada’s current pot policies

should remain in place. (Sadly, a hardcore 15 percent want to see pot laws toughened.)

The debate has intensified since Washington and Colorado legalized recreational use on November 6. Ironically, on that very date, Canada’s Safe Streets and Communities Act went into effect: It calls for a mandatory minimum prison sentence of six months for growing six or more plants. The harsher pot laws come courtesy of the Conservative Party, in control of the Canadian

federal government since 2011.

Pro-pot lobbyists Sensible BC are countering with the Sensible Policing Act, which would prohibit law-enforcement resources from being wasted on simple pot-possession cases and would also request the Canadian government to remove pot from the country’s Controlled Drugs and Substances Act.

Still, there’s hope. Liberal Party candidate Justin Trudeau declared his support for pot decriminalization and would even consider outright legalization if elected in 2013.



## HIGHWIRE

**Dispatches from the international drug war.** *By Bill Weinberg***Iran: Drug War Execution Spree**

Iran carried out the death by hanging of 10 men convicted as drug traffickers in October, defying pleas from the United Nations, the European Union and international human rights groups to spare their lives. EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton said she was “appalled” by the hangings, which add “to the alarming execution rate in Iran”—more than 300 people since the beginning of 2012. “Most of the executions took place after summary trials, without the right to appeal, and for offenses which, according to international minimum standards, should not result in capital punishment,” Ashton said.

The men, who were hanged at a prison in the capital of Tehran, were members of two drug-smuggling gangs, according to Iran’s judiciary.

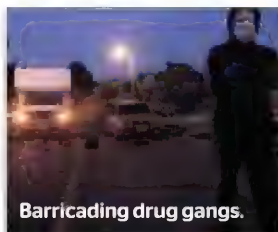
Iran serves as a primary drug-trafficking route for neighboring Afghanistan, which produces 90 percent of the world’s opium. Amnesty International says there is no clear evidence that the death penalty has had any identifiable impact in deterring drug-related offenses. Iran is second only to China in terms of executions.

Ancient temples amid the mayhem.

**Criminal Gangs Threaten Maya Biosphere Reserve**

A report by William Allen on Yale University’s Environment 360 website (“In the Land of the Maya, a Battle for a Vital Forest”) states that “in Guatemala’s vast Maya Biosphere Reserve, conservation groups are battling to preserve a unique rainforest now under threat from Mexican drug cartels, Salvadoran drug gangs, and Chinese-backed groups illegally logging prime tropical hardwoods.”

Allen cites Guatemala’s National Council for Protected Areas (CONAP) to the effect that international criminal networks now pose the biggest danger to the country’s rainforest. Cattle ranching and logging have long been eating into these environmentally crucial areas—but now they are doing so under the auspices of organized crime.

**Indigenous Community Rises Up in Michoacán**

Tired of being terrorized by drug gangs that operate with impunity in the region, an indigenous community in the southwestern Mexican state of Michoacán has erected barricades and seized control of security matters in their village. Located in the Purépecha highlands of the Pacific coast state, the small community of Urapicho in Paracho municipality has been under the self-declared control of the people since late September, when residents began forming armed self-defense patrols and erecting checkpoints on the local roads. Urapicho’s residents are now demanding official recognition of their “community police” force.

**MS-13 Makes US “Transnational Criminal” List**

Mara Salvatrucha, the Salvadoran street gang that got its start in Los Angeles’s Koreatown, was officially designated by US authorities as a “transnational criminal organization” on October 12. MS-13, as it’s also known, “is being targeted for its involvement in serious transnational criminal activities, including drug trafficking, kidnapping, human smuggling, sex trafficking, murder, assassinations, racketeering, blackmail, extortion, and immigration offenses,” the US Treasury Department stated. The designation means that the federal government can now use “economic sanctions” against the gang, which has also established a presence in El Salvador.

The Los Angeles Police Department says it’s been dealing with an outbreak of violence on MS-13’s



home turf. The LAPD cited a recent spate of shootings in the Koreatown area, where the gang was born back in the 1980s, when refugees from El Salvador’s brutal civil war flooded the community.

**Colombia-Peru Border Militarization**

In October, Peruvian military forces, backed by DEA units and US Navy SEALs, carried out their annual Operation Trapezoid along the Río Putumayo—a remote jungle river that forms the country’s border with Colombia—deploying sophisticated surveillance gear in order to root out coca plantations, cocaine laboratories and trafficking operations. On October 10, Peru’s military announced the arrest of



three Colombians, allegedly with links to that country’s FARC guerrillas, on charges of maintaining large marijuana plantations in the area.

**Mexican Youth Killed by US Border Patrol**

José Antonio Elena Rodríguez, 16, was killed by a US Border Patrol agent in October. He was shot seven times and died on a sidewalk in the city of Nogales, just across the Arizona-Mexico border. US authorities said they were responding to a report of a drug shipment crossing the border when a group of youths on the Mexican side began throwing stones. Nogales Mayor Ramón Guzmán Muñoz demanded a thorough investigation by both US and Mexican authorities.

“The disproportionate use of lethal force in the exercise of immigration control functions is unacceptable under any circumstances,” the Mexican Secretariat of Exterior Relations said in a statement. “These kinds of acts, especially because they are recurring, have been rejected by Mexican society and all of the country’s political powers.” ✱

*For updates, visit Bill Weinberg’s websites, GlobalGanjaReport.com and WorldWar4Report.com.*





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Jason Sudeikis  
relaxes with the  
tools of his trade.

# Jason Hits It Big!

For introspective Jason Sudeikis, there's nothing more serious than comedy. Thankfully, *Movie 43* delivers serious laughs. *By Dan Skye*

**"Comedy equals tragedy plus time."** This venerable axiom means that, if you're a professional comic, you usually have to wait a few years before a catastrophic event is ripe for laughs. It's like a show business statute of limitations: Those who dare breach this law risk a public thrashing. (Take comedian Gilbert Gottfried, who lost his gig as the voice of the Aflac Insurance duck after tweeting jokes about the 2011 earthquake and tsunami that devastated Japan.)

So when *Saturday Night Live* cast member Jason Sudeikis donned his Devil's costume for the show's "Weekend Update" segment to riff on the Penn State child molestation scandal, the audience collectively held its breath.

But no public outcry ensued. Sudeikis, who writes much of his own material on *SNL*, deftly turned the situation on its head by having the

Devil express outrage: "I'm the Prince of Darkness, but I'm not a monster!"

When it comes to comedy, there's no in-between. It's either funny or it isn't; you either laughed or you didn't. Sudeikis embraces the challenge. "You battle it out and try to make it as good and as real and as fun as possible," he says. "What's funny to me is not always funny to someone else. If I don't find something funny—even if a bunch of people laugh—I'll maintain an opinion, because that's what we're paid to do."

It's been suggested that all actors should be athletes in order to bend their physicality to accommodate a role. Sudeikis embodies that concept. There's a handsome everyman quality to his looks. Since Sudeikis often plays suit-wearing, middle-aged men on *SNL*, one might assume his body type matches his roles. But he's obviously in

terrific shape and moves with a confident economy of gesture. Like many *SNL* legends, Sudeikis is a born mimic with a stable full of targets, including politicians (Mitt Romney, Joe Biden, Bill Clinton) and reviled public figures (Rod

**"I was like the kid who tries pizza with barbecue sauce and thinks he's discovered something that no one has ever thought of before."**

Blagojevich, Mel Gibson, Donald Trump). He would have fit snugly into any of the great casts that make up the 37-year history of *SNL*. And Hollywood has always come knocking on their doors.

At this point, Sudeikis has already had starring roles in *Horrible Bosses* and *A Good*

*Old Fashioned Orgy*. His next film (among others) is an ensemble flick directed by Peter Farrelly: *Movie 43*, which opens in theaters January 25, strives for shock value and boasts a roster of stars (including Hugh Jackman, Richard Gere, Naomi Watts, Kate Winslet, Uma Thurman and Emma Stone) performing in a series of episodes featuring outrageous, no-holds-barred comic mayhem. Sudeikis is anxious to behold the results.

"I'm as excited as anybody to see it," he says, "because when sketch comedy is given these kinds of production values, everything is different. Like Monty Python movies—the quality of the lighting and costumes and editing all must be sharper when it gets to the film level versus a television show."

This summer, he'll take his game to a decidedly *higher* level in *We're the Millers*. The





Leslie Bibb, Justin Long and Sudeikis engage in decidedly un-superhero-like conduct in *Movie 43*.

« film, which also stars Jennifer Aniston, focuses on a veteran pot dealer who creates a fake family in order to smuggle a huge load of pot into the US. Naturally, with a film like this, Sudeikis has piqued the interest of *High Times*. But growing up in Kansas, “I was straight and narrow,” he says. “I didn’t drink; I didn’t do anything. I think I drank twice in college.”

He traces his “high” history for us. In his early comedy career in Chicago, he says he smoked a few times. And while performing with Boom Chicago, a live-comedy troupe in Amsterdam, he dabbled occasionally in mushrooms. Nevertheless, despite his early ambivalence about pot, Sudeikis did brush up against *HT*’s world when he attended the 13th Cannabis Cup in 2000 to see the Upright Citizens Brigade perform. But it wasn’t until later, when he became a founding member of Second City Las Vegas, that he hooked up with cannabis in a creative way.

“I guess that would have been my maiden voyage,” Sudeikis says. “I was like the kid who tries pizza with barbecue sauce and thinks he’s discovered something that no one has ever thought of before. I was that annoying

kid who just heard the Beatles for the first time and tells everybody about how great the Beatles are, and everyone’s like, ‘Yeah, we know.’”

But in time, he says, pot began to play a distinct role in his creative life. “When I write,” he explains, “I usually start with an image and try to see if the image can sustain an emotional narrative. In sketches, there must be some sort of story going on, some sort of point. It’s something I was taught at Second City and still believe in.”

However, pot can get in the way of this process. “It can make it really tricky,” he says. “I mean, the world’s really wide open—and if you’ve got all those doors open in your head, you’re going to be knocking around and walking in and out of a ballroom forever. But once you’re seeded with an idea or an image, pot does allow you to blue-sky it for a while.”

Asked about the recent ballot initiatives, Sudeikis says it gives him some hope that our nation’s cannabis laws are improving. “I think it’s great. I’m not overly political,” he adds. “Some think that people who make jokes and wear wigs and talk in goofy voices shouldn’t be taken too seriously. But for me, it seemed like a no-brainer. It just seems

**“The next generation will look back and be incredulous, the same way we view the civil rights movement and spraying black people with fire hoses.”**

silly—we can get drunk on Sundays. I think between marijuana laws and same-sex marriage, the next generation will look back and be incredulous, the same way we view the civil rights movement and spraying black people with fire hoses.”

As his star continues to rise at age 37, Sudeikis admits that he hasn’t been immune to feelings of insecurity and questions as to what’s it all about. Trying to stand outside yourself and understand your new reality as a successful showbiz celebrity can be a disorienting experience. Even more daunting is trying to figure out the difference between the person you’ve always thought you were and the way the public perceives you.

“If you have enough articles written about you and you read ‘em—well, I’ve always had a hard time with that,” Sudeikis says. “I went to group

therapy for a while trying to figure out some of that stuff. I mean, there are a couple things written about me that I could see. But, you know, we’re all pretty complicated as human beings, so I know that people are making a judgment based on only *x* amount of hours spent with me versus the highs and lows that we all experience. Some people are better than they seem; some people are worse than they seem. Some are better-looking than they seem, sexier than you think, less sexy than you think, hairier than you think—and whatever.”

After this digression, Sudeikis seems to acknowledge the pointlessness of the quest, instead asking the interviewer: “Is there something you want an answer to?” ✨

Sudeikis talks music: [hightimes.com/onthetash](http://hightimes.com/onthetash)



#### SNL’s Chameleon

Sudeikis first appeared on *Saturday Night Live* in 2003 as a bit player. He became a regular cast member in 2005 and has impersonated more than 70 public figures since then.



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UNSIGNED BAND  
OF THE MONTH*Quimby Mountain  
Band*

With the release of their new album, *Move On*, Quimby Mountain Band is definitely “on the move.” Whether playing at the historic Stanhope House, the Stone Pony or at festivals throughout the Northeast, QMB is becoming known for their spirited shows and exuberant fan base.

Featuring Bob Noble (bass), Harry Noble (guitar), Matt Schmidt (guitar), Jesse Bardwell (lead vocals) and Matt



DiPaolo (drums), QMB are a festival favorite. With appearances at Musikfest, Rock Hops, Phanfest and Skylands Music & Arts Festival (to name just a few), the band has shared the stage with a host of major acts, including Keller Williams, Dark Star Orchestra, the Radiators and 7 Walkers featuring Bill Kreutzmann.

QMB's impressive musicianship and song-writing combine elements of blues, rock, punk and power pop. However, it's their live shows that have caught the attention of the national press, with Lenny Bloch of CBS Radio proclaiming that the band is “ready for that quantum leap to the next level.”

For more information, head to [hightimes.com/quimbymountainband](http://hightimes.com/quimbymountainband).



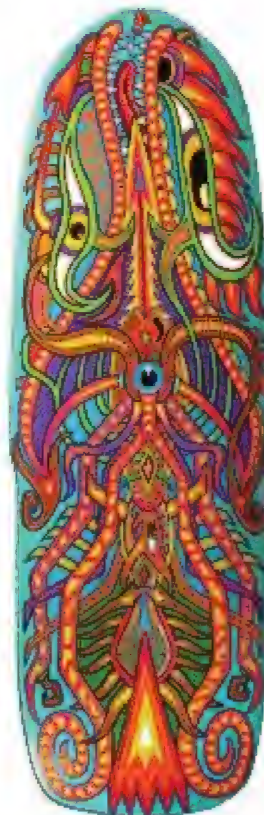
## Positive Vibrations

Psychedelic skate artist Chris Dyer blends graffiti, comics and visionary images into mind-bending art. *By Elise McDonough*

An artist as nomadic and multi-cultural as his work, Chris Dyer was born in Canada, grew up in Peru and now travels the world incessantly (with occasional pit stops in Montreal) with his Belgian wife, Valerie. Steeped in the adolescent world of comic books and skate culture, Dyer is best known for recycling old skateboards as canvases for original, colorful, detailed works. He also offers his unique visions via a variety of more traditional mediums, including oil on canvas, spray paint on walls, film, clothing design and sculpture.

Clearly a fan of high times in many forms, the 33-year-old blends bold graffiti stylings with the loftiest ideals of the psychedelic, visionary art community to create incredibly complex works full of symbolic messages.

“I used to smoke tons of weed and do lots of psychedelics back in the day,” Dyer explains. “Herb chilled me out, opened my mind to different kinds of artistic visions and opened my heart a bit, too. I didn’t do a ton of DMT, ’cause it’s not a fun trip in my experience, but that intense dive into the astral plane showed me



**“Plants shouldn’t be illegal to start with... that’s just creepy. Cannabis is medicine to many, so people should have the freedom to choose to use it if they want to.”**

the clear interconnectedness between all things ... lessons that stayed in me and are transferred in my art.”

One common theme running throughout his work is a respect for the environment and the need for human beings to live in harmony with the earth. Asked how cannabis and hemp can help achieve this balance, Dyer replies: “Plants shouldn’t be illegal to start with ... that’s just creepy. Cannabis is medicine to many, so people should have the freedom to choose to use it if they want to. Hemp is a super-sustainable fiber that can be used for crucial things like clothing, paper and fuel. It grows quickly without depleting or polluting the land so much, so it’s real wack that it’s illegal.”

Dyer’s work can be seen on skateboards and apparel from Satori Movement, Creation Skateboards and his own label, Positive Creations. His new book, *Positive Creations: The Visionary Art of Chris Dyer* (Schiffer 2011), collects all of his works in one lavish volume. ✨

Learn more online at [positivecreations.ca](http://positivecreations.ca).



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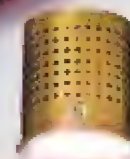
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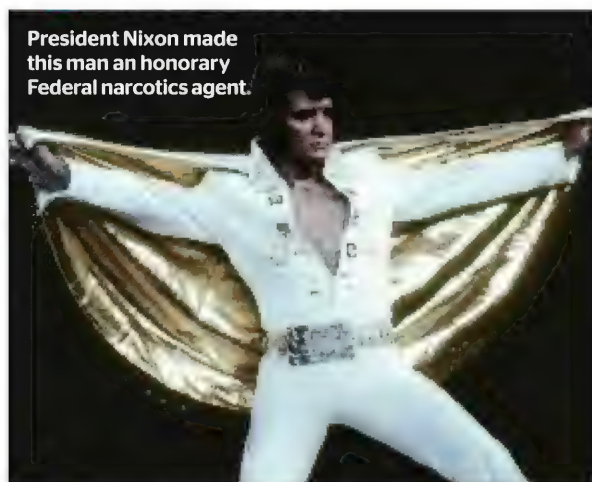


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## Elvis's Garden

The King smokes out NYC.

It is possible to be accepted as an American anywhere in the world if you are reasonably polite and can talk about Elvis. A few Hezbollah guys once bought me beers at an ice cream joint in Beirut in exchange for Elvis stories. People who hate Elvis are either Buddy Holly fans or, more often in my experience, dangerous schizophrenics. Hating Elvis is still a hanging offense in some parts of this country. It is in my backyard.

This two-CD/one-DVD package, recorded June 10 and 11, 1972 at Madison Square Garden, is a must for the collection of anyone cognizant of Elvis's talent, grace and significance. These recordings are vastly superior to the original 1972 release and seem to verify the assertion that Col. Tom Parker had the masters speeded up in order to gouge for publishing rights by getting all 22 tracks on one vinyl LP.

The press conference footage is priceless: Elvis's natural humility and gratitude show through, even as he dodges a barrage of questions about social issues. A female journalist skillfully induces a total Elvis brain fart when she asks how he feels about women's liberation. The close-up of Colonel Tom calling a halt to the conference is fantastic, but even more amazing is Elvis's father, Vernon Presley, and his near melt down under questioning regarding the effects of Elvis's ascent on the family. I had to rewind and watch the contortions of his face a few times; it's a really scary catalog of barely suppressed rage.

The live footage is cobbled together from a bootlegger's 8mm film, but what there is astounds. The stage is tiny, there is no real lighting as we know it, no Pink Floyd kit of toys, but he and the band command the room. Elvis was taking a lot of prescription drugs, but he's confident and healthy-looking. His return to live performance after years of formulaic movies peaks here, before his weird descent. *Al Cabal*



**Elvis Presley**  
*Prince From Another Planet*  
(Box Set CD/DVD)  
(Sony Legacy)

## GAMES RECOMMENDATIONS



**Borderlands 2**  
(Gearbox Software)  
Xbox 360, PS3, PC

Couchlock co-op is hard to come by in this era of Web-connected consoles, often forcing pals to dust off the N64 for a good old-fashioned puff 'n' play. Once in a while, though, a studio comes around and delivers a gift to those who like to play together in the same room. Gearbox does

it with the sequel to their 2009 hit, merging RPG elements with the first-person shooter like before, but doing it bigger and way more diversely this time. *Borderlands 2* demands to be played with friends and a couple of hours to spare, so plan accordingly.

*Tyler Stewart*



**Dishonored**  
(Arkane Studios)  
Xbox 360, PS3, PC

Stealth games have hidden in the shadows of "modern warfare" blast-a-thons of late, but *Dishonored* goes straight for the jugular with its balance of old and new for fans of the genre. Combining elements from games like *Half-Life*, *Thief*, *BioShock* and *Deus Ex*, the game centers on a

lone assassin with a simple choice: go in quiet and limit the casualties, or unleash a vengeful bloodbath and leave no witnesses behind. Whichever way you approach the end goal of delivering poignant justice, each corner turned feels like an accomplishment.

*Tyler Stewart*

## MUSIC RECOMMENDATIONS

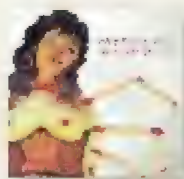


**Bad Brains**  
*Into the Future*  
(Megaforce)

That Bad Brains returned at all, given their troubled relationship with frontman H.R., is wonder enough; that they've made an album this good defies comprehension. The band was ferocious on 2007's Adam Yauch-inspired *Build a Nation*, but H.R.'s flat delivery glared like Frankenstein's karaoke

appendage. No longer fighting his diminished intensity, the band has decided to incorporate it. The music is adventurous, from the jazzy dub to the terrific Afrobeat ode to Yauch, "MCA Dub." While not as furious as Bad Brains' early albums, it's still mesmerizing start to finish.

*Chris Parker*



**Mystical Weapons**  
*Mystical Weapons*  
(Chimera Music)

Here's an album from a Beatles offspring that stands on its own and doesn't require one to listen out of some genetic obligation. Sean Lennon and Deerhoof drummer Greg Saunier formed the improv instrumental duo Mystical Weapons after gigging together, and on their debut

they've delivered a post-rock outing that hovers successfully between abstract experimentation and tangible recognition. Most of the numbers are short, but when the band stretches out—as on the raucous then diffused "Whispers the Blue Tongue"—it gets even better.

*Mark Miller*

## BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS



**We Got Power**  
*Hardcore Punk Scenes from 1980s Southern California*  
(Bazillion Points)

This is a hot-white-sun-drenched portrait of SoCal punk circa 1980, starring youth, rage, and hormones and set in the spray-painted apartments and bunkers of CA's suburban wasteland. The photogrammed book reproduces all six issues of *We Got Power*, Jordan Schwartz and David

Markey's zine documenting the seminal years of Black Flag, Red Cross, Minutemen and the Descendents, as well as lesser-known but laser-bright comets like Circle One. The tome also features tales both brutal and hilarious by such heavy hitters as Henry Rollins, Keith Morris and Mike Watt. *Diane Samuels*





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#### MUNCHIES

### Magical Melt-in-Your-Mouth Macarons

From France (by way of New Jersey) with love, a guide to making the sensual sensi sweets.

A few weeks ago, I went with a friend to Le Petit Parisien here in our lovely town of Montclair, NJ, and life will never be the same. I hadn't yet tried the latest craze, French macarons, but there was something about them—a glow, an aura, an invitation—that overrode my good sense regarding a two-bite cookie costing nearly \$3. I will always remember those bites. *Mary Ought Six*

#### MARIJUANA MACARONS

##### Macarons:

2 cups powdered sugar  
1 cup almond flour or almond meal  
3 tbsp. unsweetened cocoa powder  
¼ tsp. fine salt  
3 large egg whites at room temp  
3 tbsp. granulated sugar  
1 pinch cream of tartar

##### Ganache filling:

4 oz. bittersweet chocolate, finely chopped  
½ cup heavy cream  
2 tbsp. cannabutter at room temp

##### Cannabutter:

Melt just over ¼ stick unsalted butter in a double boiler over low heat. Stir in ¼ ounce of ground buds. Stir occasionally for 45 minutes. Strain through cheesecloth, then set aside.

##### Macarons:

Line two baking sheets with parchment paper and set aside. Place the powdered sugar, almond flour, cocoa powder and salt in a food processor, then pulse several times to aerate. Process about 30 seconds. Sift into a large bowl and set aside. To make the meringue, place the egg whites into the bowl of a stand mixer with a whisk attachment. Beat on medium for 30 seconds. Add cream of tartar, increase the speed to medium high, and beat one minute. Continue beating and slowly add the granulated sugar until combined for another minute. Transfer the meringue to a large bowl. With a rubber spatula, gently fold the dry mixture into the

meringue in four batches until just combined. (The meringue will deflate.) With the final batch, stop folding when there's no trace of egg whites and it runs like slow-moving lava. Spoon about 25 round dollops, 1 ¼ inches each, onto each baking sheet, about 1 inch apart. Pick up the sheets and bang against the counter to create macaron bases. Let sit at room temperature 30 minutes to dry the tops and ensure even cooking.

Heat the oven to 350°F. Bake the macarons one sheet at a time on the middle rack for 14 minutes, rotating each sheet exactly seven minutes in. Transfer the sheets to a rack and cool completely.

##### Ganache filling:

Place the chopped chocolate in a large bowl. Warm the cream in a small saucepan over medium heat until barely boiling. Stir into the chocolate. Let sit one minute. Add the cannabutter in cubes or dollops; stir until smooth. Chill in the refrigerator until thickened but still spreadable, about 30 minutes.

##### Assembly:

Pair macarons of similar size (i.e., for tops and bottoms). Remove the ganache from the refrigerator and spoon one teaspoon onto the center of one macaron. Top with another and press gently; the filling shouldn't ooze out the edges. Refrigerate covered for 24 hours, *et voilà!* *Stones 25*—eat two and oo-la-la!



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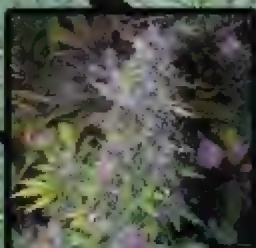
Lady Liberty



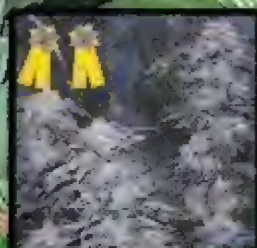
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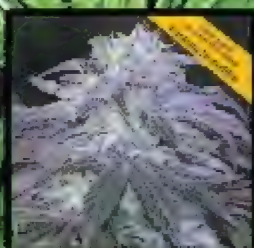
Burmese



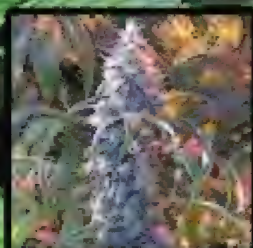
Blackberry



Gold



Fucking Incredible



Mother

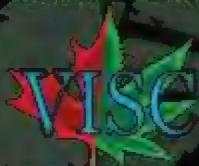


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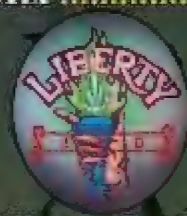
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## Medical Strain of the Month

# Panama Red

Take a trip back in time with the soaring *sativa* known as Panama Red.



In 1974, when *High Times* started publishing, the best *Cannabis sativa* didn't come from your neighbor's basement, the backwoods of Humboldt County or a state-licensed medical marijuana dispensary. Back in those heady days, high-flying pot smugglers like our illustrious founder, Tom Forçade, still flew in planeloads of super-potent smoke from Hawaii and all points south, including Mexico, the Caribbean, Central and South America, and some parts of Asia.

Often named for the geographic areas where they originated, legendary landrace strains like Acapulco Gold, Maui Wowie, Durban Poison, Santa Marta Gold and Congolese Black commanded a premium price in the marketplace—particularly those grown close to the equator, where purebred *sativas* flourished, producing highly potent buds with an electric, uplifting buzz and serious medicinal benefits. And none more so than Panama Red, a variety so revered by stateside herbalists that New Riders of the Purple Sage saw fit to immortalize it in song: "The judge don't know when Red's in town / He keeps well hidden underground."

So imagine our delight when, at the first annual *High Times* Medical Cannabis Cup in Seattle, a local access point called Delta-9 entered Panama Red in the *sativa* category, claiming it was the real deal. But the proof, as they say, is in the pudding, so we arranged for some old-school heads to take it out for a test drive, and we also sent the strain to an independent laboratory for analysis. Both tests came back with interesting results (including one longtime toker

who likened the experience to stepping into a ganja-fueled time machine). Combine the overall high marks from our official judges with lab results showing 19.79% THC, and a strain with its roots in the late '60s ended up taking third place in a contemporary cannabis competition.

And while, in the late '60s and early '70s, many cannabis enthusiasts believed that the strain's incredible potency derived primarily from the particular soil and climate found in Panama's remote Pearl Islands, where most commercial growing in the small Central American country took place, we now know it's the really incredible genetics that deliver Red's heart-racing *sativa* brain stimulation, trichome-covered buds and sweet, fruity aroma. So if you're lucky enough to find some, proceed with caution—because while Panama Red is a powerful remedy for pain, nausea, depression and other ailments best treated with *sativas*, it can be a bit overwhelming for the uninitiated. ✱

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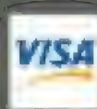
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From the folks who founded the amazing Raw franchise comes the new Raw Clipper lighters. Sporting the same iconic logo as the famed rolling papers, these eco-friendly lighters are refillable and re-flintable, so you won't be throwing them away anytime soon. They use a cleaner-burning isobutane as well, so they're perfect for hitting bongos and bowls.

## 3 Smoke Away

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Jackson, MS

## MARKET ANALYSIS

Prices by the ounce

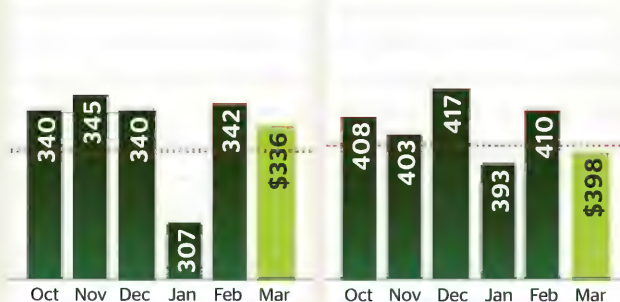
After experiencing rebounds in average price last month, the US Price, Kind and Mids indices all finished March below their previous month's average. Only the Schwag Index has consistently increased each month so far in 2013.

## US Price Index

YTD Average: \$328

## Kind Index

YTD Average: \$400

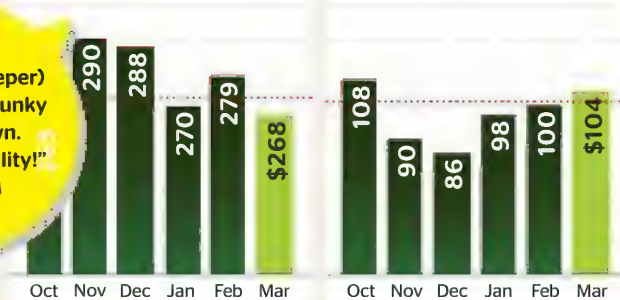


## Mids Index

YTD Average: \$272

## Schwag Index

YTD Average: \$101



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Arkansas	El Dorado	Skywalker OG The Church	450 400
California	Los Angeles San Francisco	Dead Head OG Platinum Kush Grape Ape	400 300 320
Colorado	Denver  Durango	Girl Scout Cookies Golden Goat Moonshine Haze Chiesel	350 320 360 300
Florida	Orlando Saratoga	Kush Purps	450 480
Hawaii	Big Island	Cheese Purple Haze	300 250
Indiana	Indianapolis	Bubblegum	400
Kansas	Wichita	Outdoor	320
Massachusetts	Haverhill	Northern Lights	350
Michigan	Detroit	Sour OG Kush	420
Minnesota	Minneapolis	Blue Dream Diesel	380 375
Mississippi	Jackson	Sour Diesel	350
New Jersey	Jersey City	Chem Dog OG Kush	450 400
New York	New York	Strawberry Cough Burmese Kush	400 350
North Carolina	Charlotte	Plushberry Blueberry	425 400
Ohio	Columbus	Granddaddy Purps Blue Dream	350 320
Oklahoma	Tulsa	Lemon Skunk x OG Kush Afghani x Papaya	400 420
Oregon	Eugene Portland	Sweet Tooth OG Kush	230 220
Pennsylvania	Philadelphia	Purple Kush White Widow	400 420
Tennessee	Memphis Nashville	Sour Haze Purple Haze	350 500
Virginia	Bristol Harrisonburg	Virginia Creeper OG Kush Diesel Wreck	420 400 350
Washington	Seattle	Sour Diesel Purple Haze	250 200
West Virginia	Bluefield	Mazar Northern Lights #5 G-13	300 300 350
INTERNATIONAL			
Canada	Toronto Victoria	Jack Herer Bubba Kush	C\$180 100


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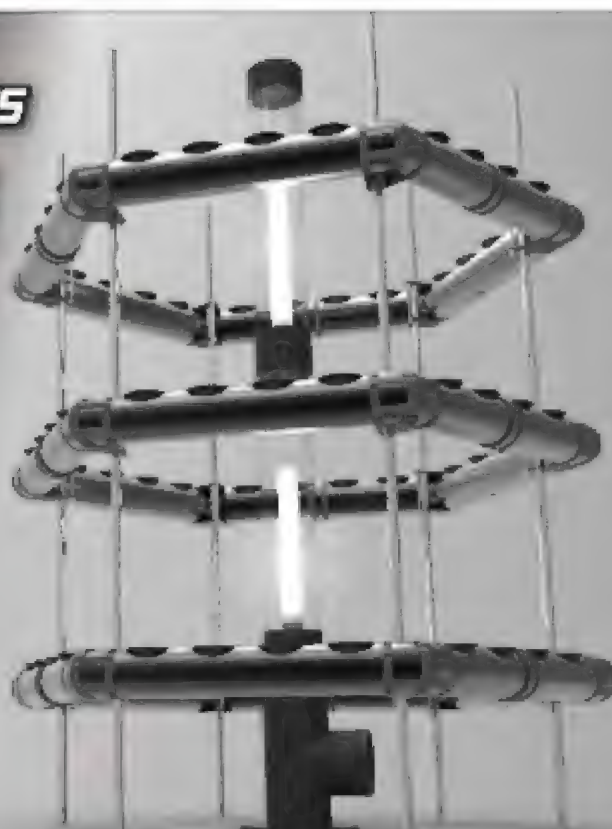
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# POT IN THE NFL

We already know that pot is nonaddictive. With the evidence mounting that it can aid recovery from brain injury—and provide highly effective stress relief—it's time to let medical marijuana take the field.

*By Samantha Nicholas*



**I**t happens a few times each NFL season: During a game, a violent collision occurs. Play stops, the fans go quiet, medical personnel gather around the fallen player and TV announcers become deadly serious. Usually they say something like, “This puts it all in perspective.”

Puts what in perspective? That pro football players are bigger and faster than ever? That when they collide, the results are frightening? Here’s some perspective: The kinetic energy generated by athletes of this size and speed has out-distanced the ability of the human body to withstand traumatic injury.

Certainly, it’s nothing that the National Football League is unaware of. Last June, more than 2,000 former players filed a lawsuit that could potentially cost the league billions. The suit claims that the NFL hid information that linked football-related head trauma to permanent brain injuries. Thousands of former players state that the head trauma they sustained as players has diminished their quality of life, with effects including (but not limited to) chronic physical pain, depression, dementia and suicide.

The underlying truth of the lawsuit is that the key to winning in the NFL is keeping your players on the field. Top sports-medicine professionals try to make sure that happens. It’s not uncommon for players to hide injuries in order to maintain their playing status. As a result, opioid use is rampant in the NFL.

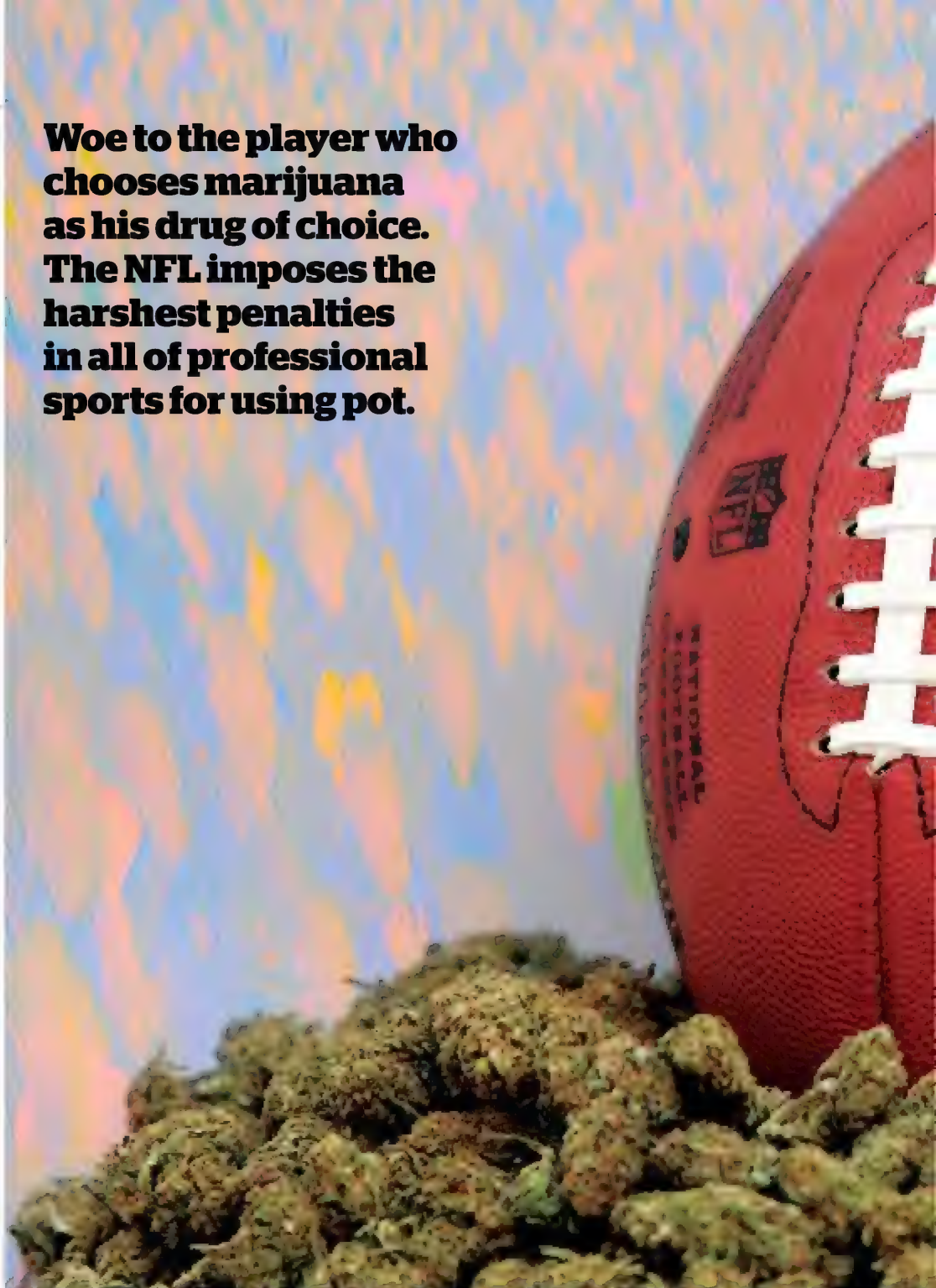
In January 2011, researchers at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis released a report indicating that retired NFL players misuse opioid pain medications at a rate more than four times that of the general population. Why? Because these same players misused painkillers during their NFL careers.

In interviews with 644 former players, 52 percent said they used prescription pain medication during their playing days. Of those, 71 percent said they had misused the drugs then. Furthermore, 63 percent who used prescription pain pills while playing obtained drugs like Vicodin, codeine and oxycodone from a nonmedical source: a teammate, coach, trainer, family member, dealer or the Internet.

But woe to the player who chooses marijuana as his drug of choice. The NFL imposes the harshest penalties in all of professional sports for using pot. Fines and suspensions are ramped up to four games for a second failed drug test and a season-long ban for three failed tests.

Harsh indeed, considering what 18-year

**Woe to the player who chooses marijuana as his drug of choice. The NFL imposes the harshest penalties in all of professional sports for using pot.**



veteran Lomas Brown says. Now an ESPN analyst, Brown states that half of the league’s players smoke pot; in 1985, his rookie year, Brown estimated that as much as 90 percent of the league toked up. Moreover, players entering the league from college have extensive experience with marijuana. CBS Sports reported that 40 percent of draft-eligible prospects failed tests for pot, while ESPN reports that 70 percent of prospects at the NFL Combine—the annual football skills showcase for prospects—admitted to pot use.

Ostensibly, the league’s marijuana policy is designed to reflect the federal government’s stance on pot. The NFL likes to believe that football, as America’s most popular sport, embodies traditional American values, whatever they are. Watching the pregame festivities, one could easily conclude that love of God

and the military are high on the list. Marijuana, obviously, isn’t.

But maybe it’s time for the league to reexamine its policy, especially in light of recent research. As far back as 1998, doctors have been exploring the effect of pot on the brain. Dr. Raphael Mechoulam, the renowned scientist who first isolated and synthesized THC, has designed a cannabinoid medication that blocks the neural damage of traumatic head injury. William Beaver, a professor of pharmacology at the Georgetown University School of Medicine, said that if tests confirm the drug’s effectiveness, it would be, “beyond any doubt, the most medically significant use ever made of marijuana.”

Powerful cannabis extracts may also offer relief and better recovery for players who have suffered concussions. Moreover, emerging evidence indicates that





cannabinoids may play a role in slowing the progression of certain neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and Lou Gehrig's disease, which NFL players are three times more likely to die from than the general population.

Beyond head trauma, the case for cannabis as a simple recovery agent from the stresses that the body undergoes in practice and in games can easily be made. In addition to paying strict attention to nutrition, players need time to adapt and compensate for their workload. Rest isn't only a matter of sleep; the absence of stress is essential. A body under stress cannot rebuild itself. Cannabis allows deeper and longer sleep without the stress levels that booze or pills induce.

And here's an even simpler argument for cannabis: A study conducted at Lausanne University Hospital in Switzerland

concluded that pot use is not a contributing causal factor in injuries requiring hospitalization—in fact, it may even protect users against the likelihood of sustaining such injuries. After interviews with 486 patients, the study reported: "Alcohol use in the six hours prior to injury was associated with [an elevated] relative risk compared with no alcohol use. Cannabis use was inversely related to risk of injury."

Considering that countless players have experienced off-the-field mishaps and subsequent legal problems at places like strip clubs, isn't it possible that the league might prefer their employees to kick back at home, play video games or simply fall asleep in front of the TV, rather than risking mayhem in a drinking atmosphere?

Mike Florio, founder of *profootballtalk.com* and a former ESPN writer, told

*High Times* in November 2009 that team owners and management are hardly unaware that their players smoke pot. "It might be fair to say that the NFL's current All-Pro team consists of mainly pot smokers and recreational drug users," Florio said. "Most teams don't care, as long as players perform on the field. It only becomes a problem if the player can't step aside long enough to pass the annual drug test for substance abuse."

Sounds like "Don't ask, don't tell, don't get caught." If a player's pot use *is* found out, however, he can expect to be drug-tested as many as 10 times a month in addition to all the standard penalties.

Perversely, though, teams are hardly opposed to drafting a top college player with a taste for pot. Why would they be? They're able to pay him less, since marijuana use allegedly indicates unreliability or poor work values. In 2010, Aaron Hernandez of the New England Patriots was one of the nation's top college players (see below). But he wasn't selected until the fourth round of the NFL draft because of multiple failed drug tests in college. An NFL team personnel director told the *Boston Globe*: "These kids, they don't get it. He cost himself a lot of money."

Interesting choice of words: Hernandez cost *himself* money—the league's drug policy had nothing to do with it. Nor did the personnel director seem particularly concerned with how cannabis might actually improve Hernandez's health. And yet, given the kinds of injuries "these kids" sustain during the course of their careers, that's what the NFL should be focused on most: the health of its players. ✱

## High-Scoring Team

Choose players with a connection to pot for your NFL fantasy team. You may come out on top!

### Percy Harvin (WR)

One of the NFL's top offensive threats, Harvin was leading the league in catches at midseason and has emerged as a much-feared return specialist. Four years ago, before the Minnesota Vikings drafted him, he tested positive for pot. But Harvin suffers from severe migraines, and cannabis has been shown to provide effective relief. He reportedly relies on pharmaceuticals now, thereby skirting the NFL's harsh drug policy.

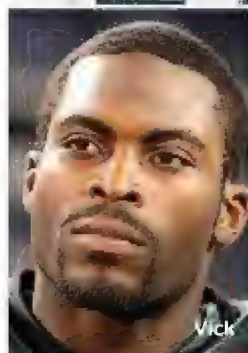
### Michael Vick (QB)

Due to his dog-fighting scandal, Vick is one of the NFL's most polarizing players. But he's tried to reform and now starts at quarterback for the Philadelphia Eagles—although this season he's

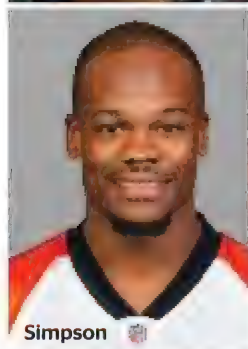




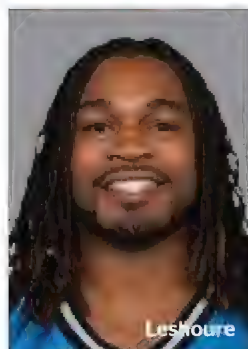
Harvin



Vick



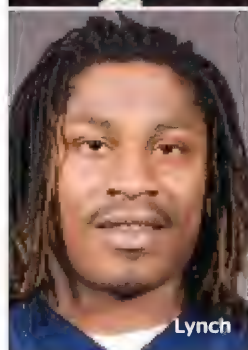
Simpson



Leshoure



Holmes



Lynch

been responsible for multiple turnovers and was benched in December. The elusive Vick's best escape happened in 2007 at Miami International Airport, when he went through security with a fake Aquafina water bottle designed for hiding one's stash. The screeners smelled pot but found none. Vick walked.

#### Jerome Simpson (WR)

Simpson suffered a high-profile bust in 2011 for having 2.5 pounds of California pot shipped to his Kentucky home. Cops found six more pounds in the house, plus pipes and other gear. The good news is that he only received 15 days in jail plus three years' probation. The bad news is that he's been a bust this year for the Minnesota Vikings, with only eight catches at midseason.

#### Mikel Leshoure (RB)

Leshoure missed his entire rookie season due to an Achilles tendon injury. During his rehab, he obviously relied on medical marijuana for relief, getting busted twice for possession. In the second incident, Leshoure tried to eat the evidence during a traffic stop in Benton Harbor, MI. Despite his legal fumbles, he's been a solid runner for the Detroit Lions, averaging 4.1 yards per carry.

#### Santonio Holmes (WR)

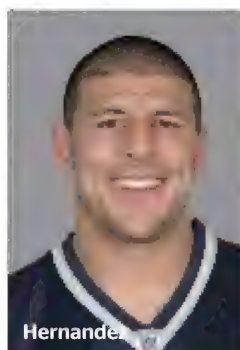
In the 2009 Super Bowl, Holmes made arguably the best catch in the game's history. But knowing that the league planned to hit the flashy receiver with a four-game suspension for violating the league's pot policy multiple times, the Pittsburgh Steelers traded him to the New York Jets. This year, he went down in week four with a season-ending leg injury.

#### Marshawn Lynch (RB)

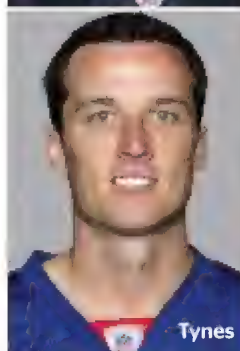
Throughout his six-year career, Lynch has had his share of legal troubles. He certainly was the cause of this one: Following the 2009 Pro Bowl, Lynch was busted in Los Angeles while sitting with some pals in a car with the engine running. Cops moved in after smelling pot, searched the car and found a loaded gun belonging to Lynch. Luckily, the felony gun charge was reduced to three misdemeanors, and no drug charges were filed. Part of Lynch's plea deal includes agreeing to police searches at any time. Currently with the Seattle Seahawks, he's been a standout this season.

#### Aaron Hernandez (TE)

The New England Patriots receiver has been a dominating player since he was drafted in 2010. But his career didn't start out well: Because of multiple failed drug tests at the University of Florida, he was a relatively low draft pick and got less money than others of similar talent. It's a different story now: In 2012, he signed a five-year contract extension, receiving the biggest signing bonus ever given to a tight end.



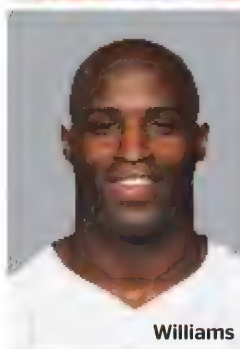
Hernandez



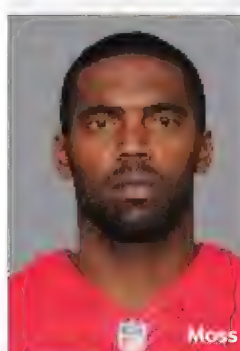
Tynes



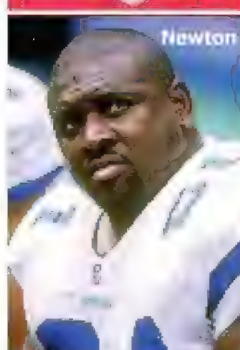
Stepnoski



Williams



Moss



Newton

#### Lawrence Tynes (K)

New York Giants kicker Lawrence Tynes has no history of pot use, but his brother Mark is serving 27 years in Texas for trying to smuggle 3,600 pounds. He also intimidated a witness and, to top it all off, his unruly courtroom behavior earned him the maximum sentence. Lawrence has been seeking a presidential pardon for his brother since 2008.

### Our Hall of Flame

#### Mark Stepnoski (C)

The 13-year veteran, who retired in 2001, played for the Dallas Cowboys and the Houston/Tennessee Oilers, made five consecutive Pro Bowl appearances and won two Super Bowl rings with the Cowboys. He was also named second team center on the NFL All-Decade Team for the 1990s. Stepnoski is in our Hall of Fame for his tireless marijuana activism: He's on NORML's advisory board and recently served as the president of Texas NORML.

#### Ricky Williams (RB)

One of the game's elite running backs, Williams played for the New Orleans Saints, Miami Dolphins and Baltimore Ravens and gained over 10,000 yards. He also played one season in the Canadian Football League after being handed a season-long suspension for failed drug tests. In an ESPN interview he compared pot use to psychotherapy. "Marijuana is 10 times better for me than Paxil," he said. (He's been diagnosed with social anxiety disorder.) Now retired, Williams has studied ayurvedic medicine and become a certified yoga instructor. He currently oversees his charity, the Ricky Williams Foundation.

#### Randy Moss (WR)

Now playing for the San Francisco 49ers, Moss should end his career as the number-two all-time receiver—if he stays healthy. In a 2005 HBO interview, he admitted using pot from the beginning of his NFL career. "As far as abusing it and, you know, letting it take control over me, I don't do that," he said. As for his current use: "I have had fun throughout my years—and, you know, predominantly in the off-season."

#### Honorable Mention

##### Nate Newton (G)

An outstanding Pro Bowl lineman, most notably with the Dallas Cowboys, Newton played on three championship teams. Following retirement, though, his new career fizzled: In 2001, Louisiana cops found 213 pounds of pot in his vehicle during a traffic stop. Five weeks later in Texas, police stopped him with 175 pounds. Newton spent 30 months in federal prison for drug trafficking, found God and went "straight." ✨



# BUDDHA

# SEEDS

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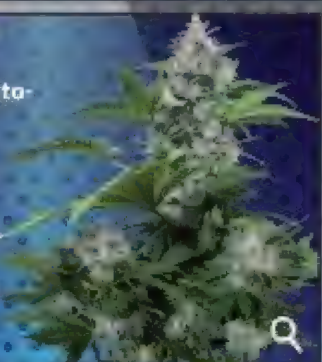
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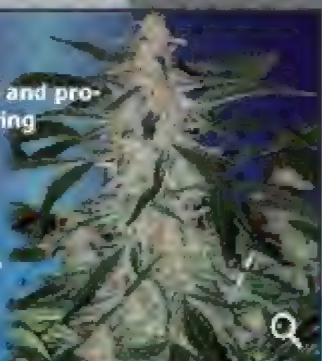
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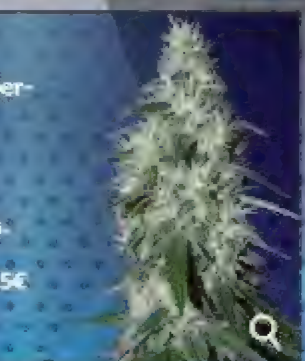
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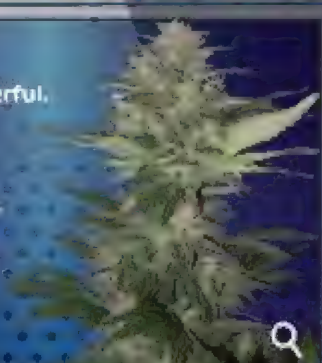
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# Season of Green

The outdoor harvest of 2012 is providing higher profits for pot growers than last year—and the market is booming nationwide. *Story & photos by Dan Skye*



**I**n Mendocino County, where the annual yield of outdoor California buds is greatest, a backhoe's engine rumbles to life. A grower is in the driver's seat. He shifts gears and the giant spade descends, curling inward, extracting a massive hunk of earth. He repeats the sequence a few times until a trench about four feet deep is dug. After lowering a large, watertight sack of

jars into the hole, he restarts the backhoe and buries the bundle.

"I'll keep 'em here until prices rise a bit," he says. "Maybe winter or early spring—I'm in no hurry."

He's been growing all of his life, like his father before him. The 20 acres he owns, situated along a hillside, is rough terrain. The garden that he tends occupies one of the few swaths of flat ground on his property and has provided a healthy living for his family for two generations. But each year, little by little, he's watched his harvest wane in value.

In 2011, the market for outdoor buds was abysmal, and autumn pot prices were depressingly low. His aim, of course, is to maximize his profits; that's why he's relied on the backhoe for the past few seasons. But this year, growers who met with buyers immediately after harvest were not altogether disappointed.



**A grower hauls a freshly cut tree to the drying room.**







Trimmers require payment and some growers will sell their first pounds for as low as \$800 to cover costs.

**I**n Humboldt County, those who put their plants into light deprivation in August and early September 2012 were delighted with buyers who showed up willing to pay as much as \$2,500 a pound. A few tales circulated about pounds selling as low as \$800—however, it's not unusual for growers to sell off their first few pounds at bargain-basement prices in order to cover the costs of trimmers. Reports from pretty much everywhere in the Emerald Triangle—Humboldt, Mendocino and Trinity counties—indicate that the price per pound didn't fall below \$1,500.

Compare that to the previous two years, when pounds were selling for \$1,000 and less. Growers throughout the state wondered whether the death knell was sounding for their way of life. Just a year earlier, many of them voted against Proposition 19—the failed 2010 California voter initiative that would have legalized cannabis—in the belief that by doing so, they would be protecting their livelihood. The specter of large-scale corporate growers tending massive gardens statewide, marginalizing independent growers, served to mobilize a substantial voting bloc that defeated Prop. 19.

But the marketplace in 2011 didn't improve, and medical marijuana

continued to exert considerable influence on prices. With the financial ability of dispensaries to oversee and cultivate large gardens and place the harvested product on their shelves, outdoor growers naturally began to feel as if they were being shunted aside.

So what changed in 2012?

On California's North Coast, a wet summer and fall impacted crops with powdery mildew, diminishing the supply and driving prices up. Also, the Obama administration's crackdown on the state's medical marijuana industry seriously altered the landscape. With many large warehouse gardens under siege, medical providers were compelled to stock outdoor product.

Kym Kemp, a Humboldt County journalist and blogger who covers the local grow scene, says: "Keep in mind, no price is set in stone. The prices that growers get for their crops depend upon who their buyers are. But I do believe that there is a growing awareness of outdoor, organically grown cannabis—that it's just plain *healthier* for you. People understand that if it's grown in Humboldt or Mendo, it's less likely to have chemicals."

However, over the past decade, the medical marijuana industry has not always been kind to the outdoor pot

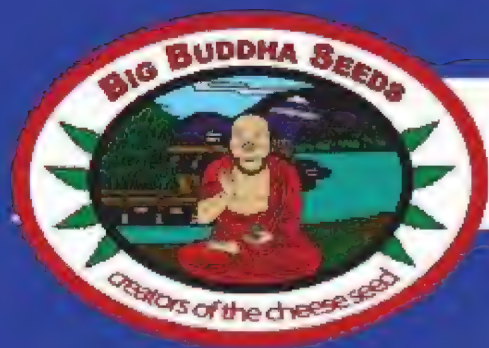
market. Dispensary buyers had no qualms about low-balling outdoor growers, and they also had no problem charging patients \$50 for an eighth—which means that on the retail level, a pound that cost \$1,500 or less was bringing in an astronomical return of \$6,400. Or else they created a bias against outdoor strains, promoting their own in-house, indoor strains instead, implying that indoor-grown pot was pristine and sterile compared to dirty outdoor plants grown at the mercy of the elements.

Addison DeMoura, vice president and co-owner of Steep Hill Labs in Oakland, believes that the growers themselves are responsible for improving the current market.

"These days, if you want to make top dollar, you grow only the very best strains: Girl Scout Cookies, OG Kush and Sour Diesel—strains like that," DeMoura says. "I'm seeing a whole resurgence in the outdoor market because of that. And if you're a grower who's lucky enough to have strong out-of-state connections, a harvest can bring in anywhere from \$1,000 to \$2,000 more per pound."

The rise of BHO (butane hash oil) and similar concentrates has also been a welcome addition to the state's pot economy. Prices for top-grade trim, the "sugar





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This warehouse will soon be jammed to the rafters with drying plants; a trimmer separates the nugs from the shake.

leaves” that are closest to the buds, now sell for as much as \$300 per pound.

Let’s do the math for BHO production. Producers can pull out as much as five grams of concentrate per ounce. But we’ll use a low-end estimate and say a producer is able to extract only three. A gram of wax or oil sells for approximately \$30 to \$80. (Just as with buds, the cost of BHO rises the further you travel from California.) We’ll set earnings at \$50 per gram.

Using these figures, a producer can earn \$150 per ounce of trim—or about \$2,400 per pound.

Think about it: It’s a helluva lot easier transporting 36 grams of concentrate across the country than a pound of buds at similar value. And for users, of course, there’s a bigger bang for their buck, with concentrates typically delivering a 60 to



If more enlightened marijuana policies were to be enacted in the US, cartel profits could be sliced by as much as 30 percent.

70 percent THC content.

It’s difficult to get a handle on the precise value of California’s annual cannabis harvest. Some estimates state \$3 billion to \$5 billion; others put the figure as high as \$14 billion. Most experts agree that California-grown pot represents 10 percent of the entire domestic market.

Of course, nailing down the value of the entire domestic US market is just as difficult. Most marijuana growers aren’t licensed or taxed; aside from over-the-counter sales at dispensaries, the vast majority of transactions occur underground. So we really don’t know exactly how big the market is. Some put it at \$10 billion nationwide; others estimate \$35 billion to as much as \$50 billion. But whatever the figure, America’s burgeoning medical marijuana market and increasing number of legalization and decriminalization initiatives has Mexico concerned.

In late October, the Mexican Competitiveness Institute released a study titled “If Our Neighbors Legalize.” With an eye on Election Day, the thrust of the report makes it clear that legalization in any state would allow resident growers there to produce pot relatively cheaply. Marijuana users in other states would benefit as well, enjoying higher-grade product at a lower cost, as state-to-state “smuggling” increases.

The study confirms that Mexican exports would be impacted severely. Relying upon figures from the RAND Corporation, a think tank that influences government policy decisions, the study states that Mexican cartels make more than \$6 billion a year smuggling drugs into the US. (The estimate of the Office of National Drug Control Policy is far higher; it says Americans spend about \$9 billion a year on Mexican pot.) With Mexican cartels reaping 62 percent of their profits in America, the study suggests that, if more enlightened marijuana policies were to be enacted in the US, cartel profits could be sliced by as much as 30 percent.

And so the optimism of US growers is, well, *growing*—and nowhere more than in California. David Lampach, DeMoura’s



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Golden Temple Kush  
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♀ Zen Hash Plant  
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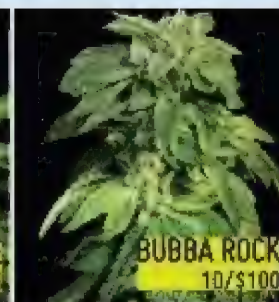
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Nevil's Haze 21 x Daxacan  
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Nevil's Haze 23 x SK MM  
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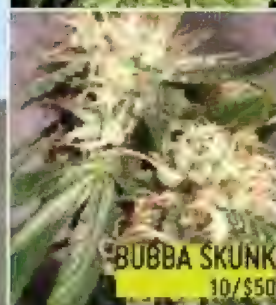
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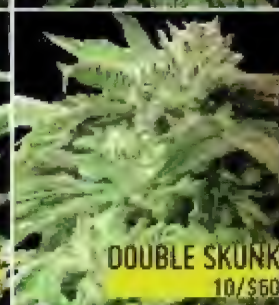
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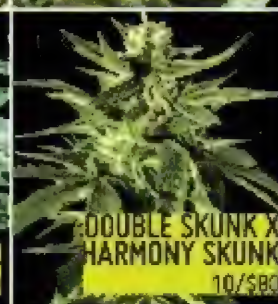
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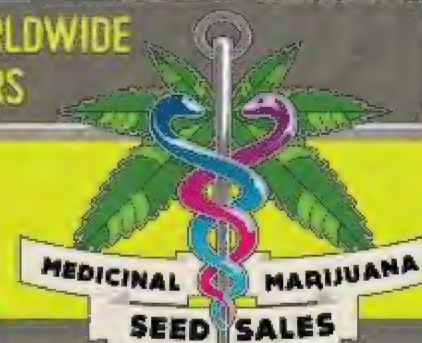


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A greenhouse offers control over the environment and provides shelter for late harvests.

partner and president of Steep Hill Labs, says: “The US, in general, is turning to California as its supplier. There is a culture of marijuana here. Generations of growers have shared their knowledge. Nowhere in the world surpasses our genetics. We drive the market.”

That may be, but the insidious war on pot smokers continues unabated, especially in California. In 2011, Mike Males, a senior research fellow at the Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice, released a drug-policy update titled “Misdemeanor Marijuana Arrests Are Skyrocketing.”

Males broke down the disturbing numbers: “In numerical terms, 20,800 Californians were arrested for misdemeanor possession of marijuana in 1990; 54,800 in 2010. Meanwhile, arrests for possession of all other illicit drugs, as well as for felony drug manufacture and sale, declined sharply. In 1990, simple marijuana possession comprised 8

percent of all drug arrests; in 2010, it comprised 22 percent.

“In 1990, half of California’s marijuana possession arrestees were African-American, Latino, Asian or other nonwhite and 35 percent were under age 20. In 2010, 64 percent were nonwhite and 52 percent were under age 20. Marijuana possession arrests of teenagers of color rose from 3,100 in 1990 to 16,400 in 2010—an arrest surge 300 percent greater than population growth in that group.”

In conclusion, Males asks the million-dollar question: “What is it about marijuana that inspires such dramatically increased policing and severe criminal justice discriminations?”

We’re long past trying to answer that one. But this simple fact remains: Pot prohibition has done nothing to stem the tide of commerce. Production is up, prices are up, and spirits continue to remain high.



If buds are kept in airtight glass, they can continue to cure for at least four years.

## The Long Cure

Take steps to ensure that you get the most out of your harvest.

When it comes to growing the highest-grade ganja on earth, true experts understand that what happens after harvest plays an outsized role in the smell, flavor and smokeability of your end product, and that drying and curing is a process too many beginners rush through—or overlook entirely.

“It’s a lot like the aging of a fine wine,” explains legendary cannabis breeder DJ Short, creator of Blueberry, Old Time Moonshine and other popular strains. “The benefits of properly cured cannabis include even moisture content and a complete breakdown of chlorophyll, which allows the full, clear expression of taste and aroma to emerge.”

Unlike tomatoes and carrots, marijuana is not best experienced as fresh produce. It takes weeks after cutting down the buds to properly dry and trim them. Drying too slowly invites molds and other pathogens; too quickly, and even the stickiest nugs turn crisp and smoke harsh.

Plan to spend up to 10 days drying your next harvest in a cool (60°F to 70°F), dry, dark place with steady airflow. Don’t turn a fan directly on the buds, put them in direct sunlight or fall prey to other shortcuts. When the stems snap, rather than bend, between your fingers, finish your trimming and prepare to start your cure.

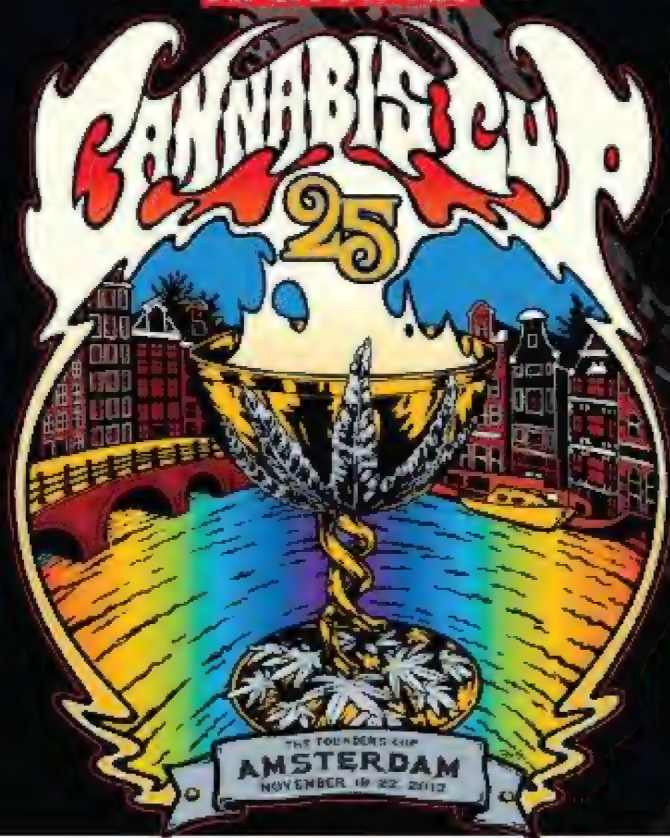
Curing—the process of slowly leaching the last traces of moisture from “dry”



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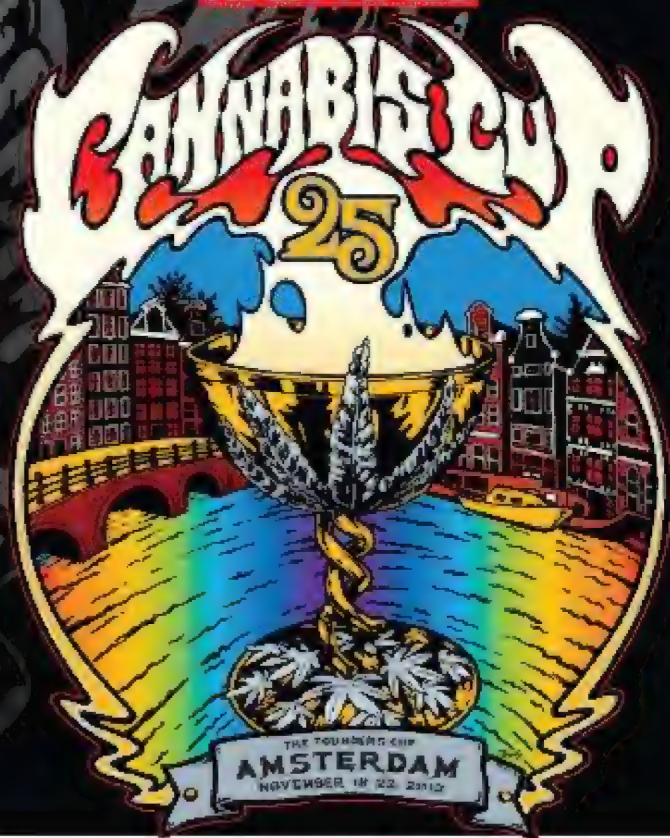
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Plan to spend 10 days drying your harvest.

buds—protects the THC and other cannabinoids from breaking down too quickly during storage, and it also prevents mold from developing. To start, place your buds in an airtight glass container, carefully piling in as many as possible without damaging them. Over time,

trace amounts of moisture inside the buds will evaporate, though this moisture will still be trapped inside the jar. Periodically open the jar and turn the buds over to release this moisture and allow more sweating (leaving the jar open for about an hour each time), and

check several times per day until the buds are perfectly and evenly dry (usually about a week). At that point, you can set the jars aside until you're ready to blaze.

According to DJ Short, if the buds are kept in the dark in airtight glass, they can continue to cure for at least four years. "The long cure has kind of become standard operating procedure for me," he explains. "I do periodically check them up until about six months. At that point, if they're the same as at five months and four months, then I'll just let them go until I'm ready to sample. Right now, I'm about to crack open a jar from 2009. Cured that long, the calyxes start to go golden and the herb develops some deep and unique characteristics, based on the strain. I'm actually curious what would happen if, like the spirits industry, we started aging in oak barrels—because anything you put next to cannabis, that flavor will be imparted to the herb."

DJ Short suggests that anyone interested in the long cure might want to investigate the new violet glass jars designed to prevent the degradation of terpenoids that give cannabis its flavor and aroma. And one last tip: If your bud gets too dry during curing, simply place a freshly cut nug into the middle of the jar and then monitor it closely for the next week, as if you were starting the curing process over from the beginning. *David Bienenstock*

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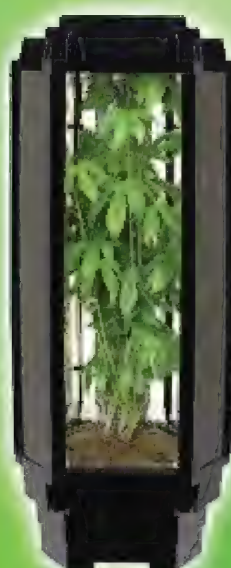
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# the haze craze

HT's senior cultivation editor tracks down the goods on a legendary marijuana strain with an almost psychedelic punch.

By Danny Danko



## Hazy Origins

Our tale begins in the late 1960s in Santa Cruz, where a mild climate and a dry autumn combine to allow farmers to extend their outdoor growing season beyond October. Here, along the California coastline, the Haze Brothers cultivated an exotic variety of pot that quickly earned fame within the area's small circle of cannabis connoisseurs at that time. The

Original Haze, rumored to contain tropical genetics from Thailand, Mexico and Colombia, delivered an electric *sativa* jolt. The high was cerebral and uplifting, with almost no ceiling to the buzz.

Joe Haze, one of the aforementioned Haze Brothers, was quoted in *Grow American* #63 (dated November of 1980) as follows: "The stuff they grow up there [in Northern Cali] is mostly *indica*, but

it's harvested early to get it in before the frost. In our county the flowers pump out resin until December, and Haze pot is from *sativa* seeds." Four Haze phenotypes arose, nicknamed Gold, Silver, Purple and Blue.

Despite the buzz, Haze seeds remained scarce for years until the late 1970s, when famed breeder Sam Skunkman started creating and refining his own batches. By 1984, he had taken them to



Behold a rare pink phenotype of Silver Haze.



Holland and started selling them under his Sacred Seeds moniker. With a flowering time from 12 to as much as 16 weeks, the Original Haze earned a reputation as a finicky, difficult plant to grow, and many preferred planting Skunk and Northern Lights seeds instead. (The Original Haze is still available today in seed form from Flying Dutchmen Seeds.)

However, those who did grow the

Haze to fruition were rewarded with long, sticky spears of spicy nuggets. These colas had to be coaxed out of the plant, with growers being careful not to overfeed or overwater the lanky limbs; also, stakes or trellises are a must, to keep the tops from falling down under their own weight. These long, thin leaves and wispy buds are characteristic of pure *sativas* such as the Haze.

## The Haze Craze

In the 1980s, the legendary seed producer Nevil Schoenmakers bought a selection of beans from a connoisseur in New York that included the Haze Brothers' Original Haze. After he took those seeds to Amsterdam and embarked on a breeding project to stabilize them, Schoenmakers released Nevil's Haze to the general cannabis-smoking public, and everything changed. As marijuana historian Mr. Haze 420 said to me, "Nevil's Haze is some of the most powerful *sativa* I've ever smoked."

By the end of the decade, Haze hybrids were making it easier for growers and smokers to truly appreciate the amazing qualities of the strain. Nevil's Seed Bank released NL #5 x Haze in 1989, and Sensi Seeds followed shortly thereafter with their Silver Haze, winning the *High Times* Cannabis Cup that same year. In the 1990s, Green House Seeds ruled the *sativa* scene with their Super Silver Haze.

Around that same time, industrious growers in Florida began producing a kelpy, bright orange product called Miami Haze. These tight little nuggets traveled up the I-95 corridor to East Coast hubs such as New York City, Boston and Philadelphia, and quickly changed the sensi scene with their characteristic "up" high. Nicknames such as Crippies, Piff and Pude (pronounced *pu-day*) denote a higher-quality product with almost psychedelic effects. Many a smoker has thought he was having a panic attack after experiencing the racing heart associated with these nearly pure *sativas*.

These days, Haze hybrids abound, winning Cannabis Cups regularly and wowing the visitors to Amsterdam's coffeeshops. They're a perfect daytime smoke, inspiring creativity and wonderful walks in the park or museum visits. Subtle flavors of root beer, chocolate and sandalwood dance on the tongue long after a Haze spliff is smoked, and the hashish made from Haze plants is a wonder to behold. Haze will continue to win awards and is an excellent source of breeding material in creating new flavors and aromas.

As for the notorious Purple Haze debate, here's what Sam Skunkman had to say on a popular weed forum: "Yes, Purple Original Haze was absolutely a reality. It was around for more than a decade in the late '60s and '70s, and from then on in the form of hybrids. It came in silver, blue, reddish, as well as purple and almost black. I grew, smoked, saw them all. They were real. Purple Haze was Original Haze with Colombian bloodlines [i.e., phenotype]."



# Top 10 Haze Strains of All Time



Hazy Kush is a newcomer hybrid on the sensi scene.

## Nevil's Haze

Green House Seeds

1st Place *High Times* Cannabis Cup, Seeds, 1998  
This one harks back to the days of the legendary breeder Nevil Schoenmakers (sometimes misspelled "Neville"), who serendipitously acquired an almost pure Haze and selected back to stabilize its most extreme *sativa* characteristics. Arjan and Franco have not only kept this classic strain alive, but they've refined it into one of the most outstanding, long-flowering Hazes in existence. The buzz is physically relaxing, but with an inspiring spiritual high.

Growing Nevil's Haze takes time and care. The buds don't appear until almost a month into the flowering cycle, and the plant will continue to stretch, developing a lot of lumber between each node. The small nuggets fill out and turn white with crystals toward the end of flowering. Outdoors, the branches will stick out at 90-degree angles and find the light in full sun. But despite the extended growing time, if you're a true *sativa* lover, Nevil's Haze is well worth the wait.

*Lineage:* Thai x (Colombian x NL #5)

*Flowering time:* 14 to 16 weeks

*Contact:* Green House Seeds, [greenhouseseeds.nl](http://greenhouseseeds.nl)

## Super Silver Haze

Green House Seeds

1st Place *High Times* Cannabis Cup, Best Overall Strains, 1998

1st Place *High Times* Cannabis Cup, Best Overall Strains, 1999

3rd Place *High Times* Cannabis Cup, *Sativas* (tie), 2002

3rd Place *High Times* Cannabis Cup, Best Overall Strains, 2007

A pedigree strain with plenty of awards under its belt, Super Silver Haze from Green House Seeds changed the face of Dutch ganja genetics in the late '90s and continues to garner praise and win awards years later. A perfect blend of Skunk, Northern Lights and Haze, the SSH reminds smokers of the best of the coffeshop Haze hybrids. The odor is spicy and dry, and the strain tastes floral, musky and sweet all at the same time.

When grown, the SSH will exhibit *sativa*-esque qualities, with plenty of stretching and long internodal spacing. The key is to vegetate these plants with plenty of light and keep them short by topping or tying down the branches early in life. Allow lots of space for the roots, and you can expect a decent yield that repays your extra efforts. People suffering from nausea or depression report near-miraculous relief with the real Super Silver Haze.

*Lineage:* (NL x Nevil's Haze) x (Skunk x Nevil's Haze)

*Flowering time:* 10 weeks

*Contact:* Green House Seeds, [greenhouseseeds.nl](http://greenhouseseeds.nl)

## Northern Lights #5 x Haze

Sensi Seed Bank

One of the first and most successful combinations of two incredible and divergent strains is the legendary Northern Lights #5 x Haze (or NL#5/Haze for short). This strain achieves a perfect balance between these two varieties of cannabis: The sweetness of the Northern Lights and the tang of the Haze blend into a rich, robust smoke with a near-psychedelic and supremely uplifting high.

Anecdotal evidence indicates that this strain is useful in treating arthritis. Ken from Sensi says that growers can put newly rooted clones or young seedlings of NL#5/Haze into flowering early, but recommends letting them branch out a bit to achieve the full potential of the yield. The stability of this strain makes it perfect as a mother plant or for use in a breeding regimen. NL#5/Haze is also now available in feminized form.

*Lineage:* Northern Lights #5 x Haze

*Flowering time:* 10 to 11 weeks

*Contact:* Sensi Seed Bank,



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## Amnesia Haze

Soma Sacred Seeds

1st Place *High Times* Cannabis Cup,  
Best Overall Strains, 2004

*High Times* Top 10 Strain, 2005

Soma's done it again, this time with the appropriately named Amnesia Haze, a spicy mix of Southeast Asian, Jamaican, Afghani and Hawaiian strains that adds hints of pine and black pepper to its fruity bouquet. Truly a mind-bender with a wonderful flavor and aroma, Amnesia Haze is yet another example of the triumphant return of *sativas* to the cannabis gene pool.

Longer-flowering *sativas* take a great deal of patience to cultivate (some won't show flowers until a month after the blooming period is induced), but the taste and high amply repay the extra investment of time. When growing the Amnesia Haze, go light on fertilizer (preferably organic compost tea and liquid seaweed); Hazes tend to respond poorly to overfertilization and overwatering, which means it's always best to err on the side of caution. Also, be sure to give the roots room to spread out. After a slow maturation period that's been known to drive growers crazy, you'll be rewarded with some of the most uplifting ganja on the planet and soon be soaring ever higher with hit after hit of the piney and spicy Amnesia Haze.

*Lineage: Afghani Hawaiian x Southeast Asian sativa*

*Flowering time: 11 to 13 weeks*

*Contact: Soma Sacred Seeds, somaseeds.nl*

## G-13 Haze

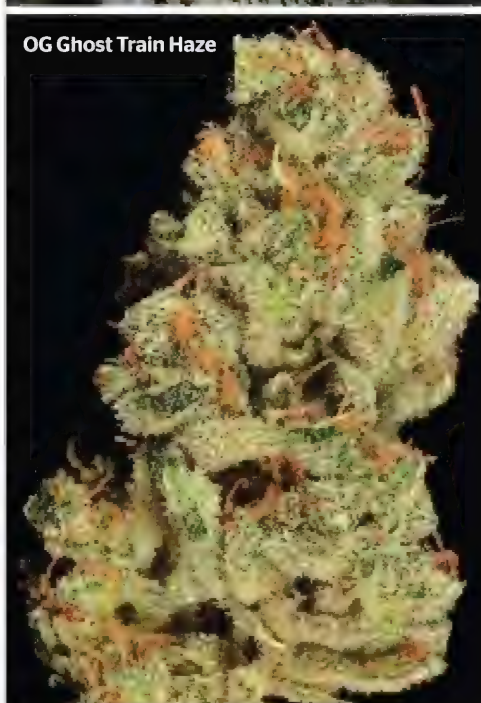
Barney's Farm

2nd Place *High Times* Cannabis Cup,  
Best Overall Strains, 2006

1st Place *High Times* Cannabis Cup,  
Best Overall Strains, 2007

Barney's head honcho Derry crossed the legendary G-13 male responsible for many of Amsterdam's finest coffeeshop weeds with a favorite Hawaiian *sativa* to create the G-13 Haze, which promptly won Cup awards two years in a row. Spicy and sweet flavors as well as a stupendous, uplifting high make this *sativa*-dominant plant a real keeper.

G-13 Haze grows short and stocky for a *sativa*, forming dense, highly crystallized buds that fill out into long, firm colas. Remember that slow and steady wins the race with longer-flowering plants, so feed the G-13 Haze minimally and alternate between a mild nutrient solution and plain water. The scent will accumulate as the plant matures, finally resulting in



a fragrant "fruit bomb" with a taste of incense and even cardamom. Medicinally speaking, this strain can be used to treat depression, ADD and ADHD.

*Lineage: G-13 x Hawaiian*

*Flowering time: 10 to 11 weeks*

*Contact: Barney's Farm, barneysfarm.com*

## OG Ghost Train Haze

Rare Dankness

This amazing marijuana strain made our May 2012 cover as the "Strongest Strain on Earth" after testing at a whopping 25.49% THC level at our 2011 *High Times* Medical Cannabis Cup in Denver. The OG Ghost Train Haze packs an amazing *sativa*-dominant punch that will have your heart racing and your head spinning. The amount of sugary trichome gland heads these plants produce is equally mind-boggling.

The spicy flavor and Hazy aroma from the female side is complemented by the potency of the Kush male, which together provide a connoisseur-quality experience that lasts and lasts. Rare Dankness breeder Scott tells me this strain excels in a warm outdoor climate and is particularly higher-yielding when trellised and kept low to allow the branches to fill out the canopy.

*Lineage: OG Kush x (Trainwreck x Nevil's Haze)*

*Flowering time: 65 to 80 days*

*Contact: Rare Dankness Seeds, raredankness.com*

## Mako Haze

Kiwi Seeds

1st Place *High Times* Cannabis Cup, *Sativas*, 2006  
From faraway New Zealand comes a Haze worth its weight in gold. Kiwi Seeds, affiliated with the incredible De Dampkring coffeeshop in Amsterdam, released their Mako Haze a few years back and immediately won the *Sativa* Cup in 2006. The soaring high and uncommonly sweet and spicy flavor were unequaled by any other Haze—they certainly made the judges sit up and take notice.

Mako Haze grows wispy and lanky, with the long internodal spacing typical of extreme *sativas*, but the final, filled-out spears are completely covered in tiny psychedelic trichomes. Smokers will enjoy one of the strongest yet most intensely pleasing Haze highs they've ever experienced, and true marijuana aficionados will always savor the qualities of unique *sativas* such as the Mako Haze.

*Lineage: 75% sativa, 25% indica*

*Flowering time: 10 to 12 weeks*

*Contact: Kiwi Seeds, dampkring.nl*

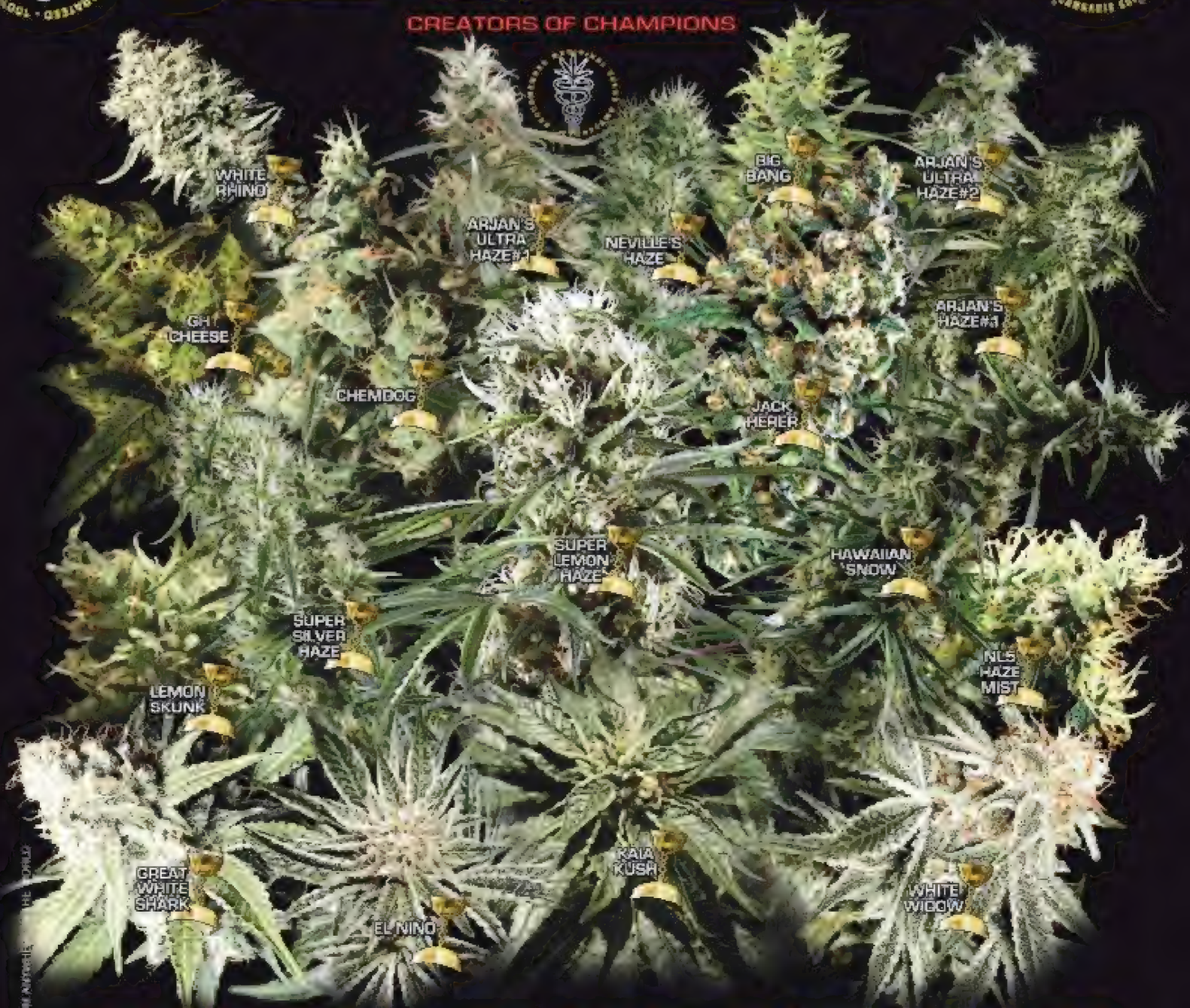




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## Jurassic Haze

Kushman Seed Company

*High Times* Cultivation Department alumnus Kyle Kushman has finally started his own seed company in order to spread the joy of the many strains he's had the opportunity to work with and refine. When Kyle felt the time was ripe to release his favorite hybrids in seed form, this Jurassic Haze was one of several genetic masterpieces to issue from this budding sensi superstar.

This *sativa*-dominant monster strain results from crossing the Cherry Lopez back to its original mother, the Strawberry Cough. Growing huge, cylindrical colas with an incredible calyx-to-leaf ratio, the Jurassic Haze is one of the highest-yielding *sativas* on the planet. The taste is still fruity, but with heavy, Kushy undertones from the Adonai Kush father. Clones and seeds are available in limited supply at Buds & Roses LA.

Lineage: Adonai Kush x (Cherry Lopez x Strawberry Cough)

Flowering time: 9 to 10 weeks

Contact: [kylekushman.com](http://kylekushman.com)

## Cambodian Haze

Soma Sacred Seeds

Well known as a *sativa* lover and true cannabis connoisseur, master breeder Soma combined Southeast Asian and Jamaican genetics with his legendary G-13 male stock to create the Cambodian Haze, a sweet and spicy plant with a long-lasting buzz. Soma tells me that the "Cambo" produces large, long and heavy colas and is a personal favorite of his.

The high from the Cambodian Haze must be experienced to be believed. The complex flavors and effects take a little extra time to develop—this Haze finishes in the 13th week of flowering—but it will repay your patience with a soaring, euphoric high that seems to have no limit.

Lineage: G-13 x Cambodian/Jamaican

Flowering time: 13 weeks

Contact: Soma Sacred Seeds, [somaseeds.nl](http://somaseeds.nl)

## Haze Automatic

Dinafem

Auto-flowering strains are all the rage in Europe and Canada, but they have yet to take off in the US. Even so, as more and more farmers awaken to the convenience of growing cannabis plants that start flowering at a certain height regardless of the light cycle, we'll see these varieties start to proliferate here. Pushing the envelope ever harder and wider, Dinafem—a respected and award-winning breeding outfit from Spain—has introduced the world's first auto-flowering Haze hybrid.

Combining the complex *sativa* flavor and psychoactive high of the Haze with a *ruderalis*'s ability to bloom automatically, Dinafem have created a truly unique and versatile cannabis variety. In most climates, all a grower has to do is simply plant the feminized seeds any time the threat of frost isn't an issue, then walk away and return 80 days later to find fully formed, mature Haze flowers ready to trim and dry—long before the typical harvest season has even begun.

Lineage: Haze x *ruderalis*

Flowering time: 10 to 11 weeks

Contact: Dinafem, [dinafem-seeds.com](http://dinafem-seeds.com) ✨



## Top 10 Tips for Growing Haze

- 1) Light feeding:** When it comes to overall grow times, *sativas* take longer than *indicas* and need less food per watering. Err on the side of caution and use less than the recommended amounts of nutrients unless you see a deficiency arising.
- 2) Selective pruning early:** Whether you prune, pinch or incorporate LST (low-stress training), it's important to keep *sativas* short and stocky. Employ these techniques during the vegetative stage.
- 3) Lower your lights:** In terms of growth, *sativas* stretch long and lanky, and one way to reduce this is by keeping your lights (preferably metal halides) closer to the canopy. Raise them as your plants reach upward.
- 4) Training tops:** Use a ScrOG (Screen of Green) system to guide growing branches through a horizontal chicken-wire screen at canopy level. This spreads future colas around and maximizes space.
- 5) Give roots room:** Larger containers for your medium will result in bigger plants with higher yields. Plan on needing at least 1 gallon of container space per week of vegetating time and you'll harvest more abundantly.
- 6) Longer flowering times:** Some Hazes can flower for up to 20 weeks! This means elongating your budding schedule to accommodate many more days of watering and flowering.
- 7) Flower early:** Because Haze plants will stretch for weeks after the flowering cycle is induced, start the budding period earlier to wind up with a manageably sized plant. Between 1 and 2 feet is an ideal time to begin flowering.
- 8) Support growing branches:** Even well-grown *sativa* tops will sometimes overwhelm the plant's own ability to hold them up. Use a trellising system or attach branches to plant stakes.
- 9) Flush well:** During a lengthy period of growth, many salts and minerals will build up in the medium as well as in plant cells. Leach out excess nutrients with plain water for at least two weeks before harvesting.
- 10) Harvest when ready:** Even though they take more time, Hazes are definitely worth the wait. Allow the trichomes to mature and start to go cloudy (with some amber) before cutting the buds down for drying.



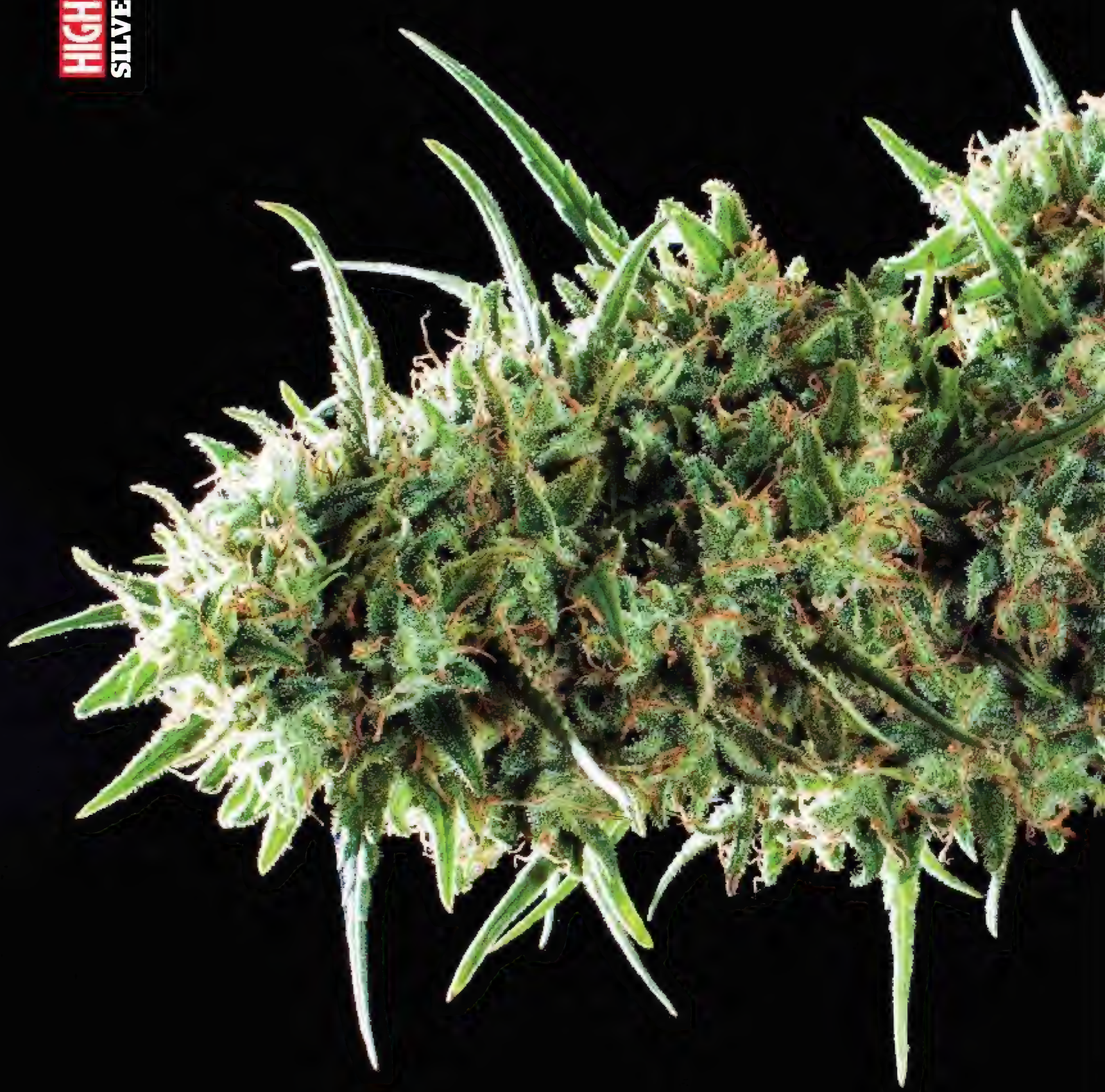
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A "ready to harvest" thumbs up from deep within this medical marijuana bunker.

# Inside the Bud Bunker

Take a tour of one of the most unique gardens we've ever profiled in the pages of *High Times*: a state-of-the-art underground facility surrounded on all sides by concrete. This sealed atmosphere allows the grower to create the perfect environment to encourage the growth of medicinal-grade marijuana on a commercial scale. **Story & Photos by Erik Biksa**

**U**nderground in an undisclosed semi-rural location in Canada lies the ultimate bud bunker. No, this isn't a government-built facility—rather, this state-of-the-art grow bunker is the work of devoted medical marijuana cultivators, federally licensed under Canadian law. The folks here are allowed to grow a specific number of plants and store a predetermined amount of dried bud on the premises, all 100 percent legally. So you might say this is an "aboveground" subterranean garden, at least as far as Canada's federal government is concerned. At the same time, the investment and know-how that has gone into designing, building and operating this safe, secure and productive bud factory has come from dedicated citizens—not big business, as one might expect upon looking at this bud-filled super-fortress.

When seen from the outside, there isn't anything that would indicate to visitors that there's a medical marijuana factory behind the engineered concrete walls that are 16 inches thick. Basically, getting invited for a tour here is like getting invited to stroll through Fort Knox: a rare, fantastic and exciting opportunity.

The operator guiding the tour is very professional about the visit. He is calm, collected and pleased to share information that is the culmination of years of work.

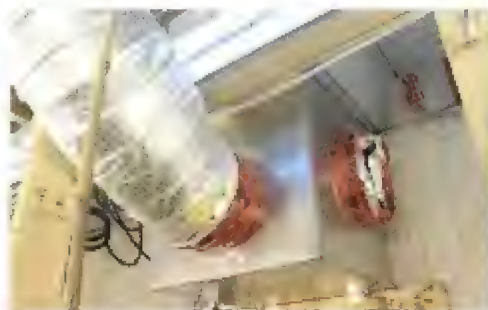
Clearly, there's a lot to learn from the advances that have been made here. As far as the building quality goes, this concrete grow bunker is as solid and durable as an underground parking garage. Just off the top of his head, the operator can tell you how many cubic meters of concrete were poured, the gauge of the rebar, even how many feet of armored electrical wire were used in the construction.







Clockwise: More than sixteen inches of steel-reinforced concrete surrounds these medical buds; over 250,000 BTU's of cooling power; industrial air-handlers maintain the perfect atmosphere; a section of the ballast room; each lighting system is isolated and protected via circuit breakers.



### A Controlled Environment

Because the facility is made entirely of concrete and steel, the risk of fire or theft is significantly minimized, helping to safeguard a major investment upon which the health and well-being of many Canadian medical marijuana patients depends. Since the concrete can easily be scrubbed or washed, it also provides a very hygienic growing environment.

Despite the fact that at any given time there could be over 150 1,000-watt lamps running inside, the internal growing temperature is always maintained at optimal levels. Tucked away on the property are at least six five-ton air conditioners—serious cooling power for a serious amount of lighting. With this many lights and the incredibly well insulated growing environment, it

makes sense to run the facility as a controlled environment agriculture (CEA) setup, meaning the plants are sealed off from the outside and the air exchange is minimal; essentially, all aspects of the growing environment—including factors like humidity and carbon dioxide levels—are controlled and supplied by the operator.

This tailored and consistent growing environment can yield bigger and stickier buds with better medicinal qualities for patients in need. When plants grow healthy in a tightly sealed and well-controlled environment, problems with insects or diseases are extremely rare—negating the use of any chemical controls that may compromise the quality of the medicinal marijuana being produced at the site.







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## It's All in the Design

In some respects, the growing style here resembles that of some indoor vineyard of the future. (In fact, they're even growing a strain called Oregon Grape.) The plants are given plenty of root space in deep beds and grow vertically, straight up in a vine-like fashion, then trained along a series of high-tension support wires that run down the length of the many beds of soilless peat mix packed into the grow bunker. At maturity, the plants hang from the support wires in dense clusters of sticky-sweet and potent medicinal buds.

Given this operation's scale, the design is remarkable in that all of the necessary daily duties involved in maintaining a large number of plants (as well as the upkeep and operation of a facility this large) can be accomplished by one individual—and still leave him with plenty of time in the day for enjoying family and friends.

Watering is done by hand with a watering wand, hose and mixing tank with a pump. This helps ensure that plants are getting water only when they need it, since excess humidity in such a tightly sealed environment can lead to serious growing problems, even though the concrete itself is not prone to mold or fungus. The depth of the soilless peat mix, coupled with the fact that it acts as one continuous mass for the roots to stretch out through, helps to support some very big plants. In addition, these beds help prevent numerous problems, including electrical failure. The growers buy their power from the grid, and though their electric bill is high, the energy is clean and reliable, and they have backup generators in case of a power failure.

Every inch of the miles and miles of high-voltage wiring here is up to code. The building has been inspected for its engineering and electrical work. The ballast room borders on the surreal: wall-to-wall racks of 1,000-watt high-intensity discharge (HID) ballast boxes quietly humming away.

## Large-Scale Troubleshooting

What might seem like a quick and easy-to-fix problem in the average grow can turn into a minor disaster if you're producing medical marijuana crops on this scale.

The proprietor of this garden told me how a batch of the pre-wired and CSA-approved ballast kits were having difficulty turning on lamps farther away from the ballast room. Closer inspection revealed that the factory changed the



igniters it had been using on previous batches, and the new ones were not rated to fire up lamps more than 30 feet away. Most manufacturers aren't counting on customers running their lamp cords much longer—and a dollar or two in savings for the manufacturer can cost the commercial medical grower a bundle, since it means that a qualified person must be called in to open up, replace, test and reinstall the igniter in each ballast. (And there are *lots* of them here.) It also means sourcing a big number of new igniters while the garden's health deteriorates from a lack of adequate crop lighting.

**From top: Oregon Grape, a medical kush strain; big root systems cultivate big yields in raised beds; an overhead shot of the underground bud factory.**







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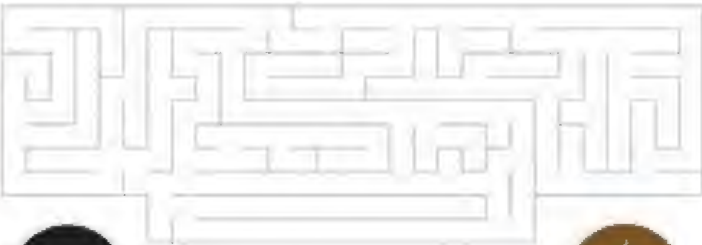
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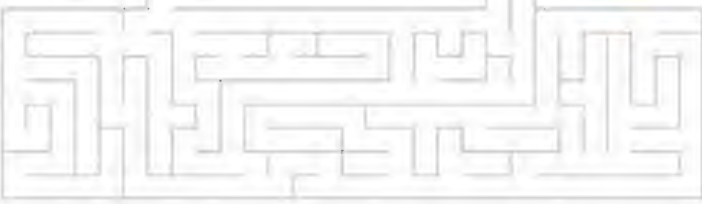
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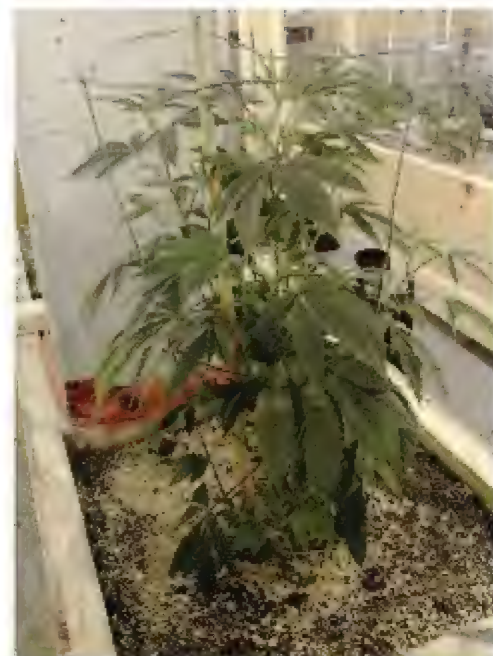
Left to right: Alternate lamp operation for efficiency; a new transplant quickly replaces harvested plants.

On the next round, the bud bunker is going to dedicate a portion of the crop to digital HID lighting. One of the things they've been experimenting with here is "flipping" which lamps are active in the room during the "day" part of the light cycle. Since the lamps are spaced almost every two feet along the length of the planting beds, the plants

are never far from a strong source of light, so rotating which ones are active will cut down on power costs in both cooling and lighting. The digital ballasts they plan to try out are manually dimmable, so they intend to experiment with different lighting intensities in the various stages of bloom during the next cropping cycle.

### Innovative Medium

One of the most interesting parts of the bunker's construction is the raised beds of soilless medium. Having space between the beds and the ground shields the plants from root rot or nutrient lockouts that could otherwise result from the cold. It also affords good drainage, allowing the growers to provide a thorough flush of the medium in the weeks before harvest. Not only does proper flushing with lots



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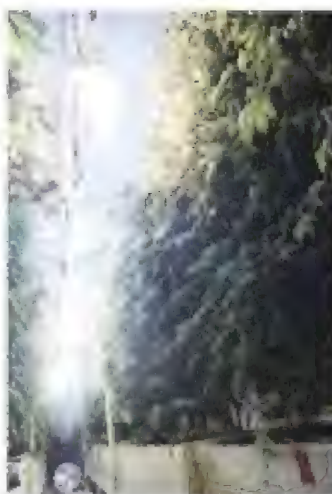
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of fresh water ensure cleaner-burning medicine for patients: it also means that the growing beds are washed free of excess fertilizer residues that may have accumulated over the cropping cycle—allowing the medium to be reused again and again. This is a clear advantage, since replacing and disposing of all the growing medium would involve a dump truck or two. Floor drains have been cleverly engineered into the building plan, so there is no freestanding water left on the floor at any time.

After each harvest, the peat-based soilless medium has become acidified, in part because the lime content has been used up by the previous crop. Both prilled/pelleted dolomite and hydrated lime are added back into the medium, promoting an optimal and stable pH for better nutrient absorption, as well as providing a continuous release of calcium and magnesium, which are essential elements for hungry, fast-growing crops of medicinal buds.

For a fast change in the pH, before



Bright lights, big buds.

the dolomite breaks down sufficiently, the soilless medium is drenched with one cup of hydrated lime per every 50-gallon irrigation barrel, increasing the pH of the growing medium by almost exactly one point (for example, from 4.5 to 5.5).

The current crop of Oregon Grape and CannaPharm'd Tuna Kush received a full nine weeks in the bud phase with 12-hour-on/12-hour-off lighting.

During the final three weeks, the plants were fed little

more than plain water, drawn from a well and relatively pure, with some level of alkalinity. The plants are fed with a common three-part nutrient formulation and receive a bloom-boosting supplement in their peak bud phase.

It's nearly impossible to capture the scale of this bud bunker in a single photograph—just one row here makes anyone in the frame look dwarfed by the greenery that surrounds them. If you've ever helped to construct a growroom (even a moderate size one), you can appreciate how much time it takes to put

all the components together neatly and safely. Looking at this indoor, concrete-encased farming facility and knowing that it was mostly done by one dedicated grower turned underground bunker engineer is truly inspiring.

What I took away from my visit—aside from a sense of total awe—is that, while the federal government may have the money, the scientists and the technical ability to produce medical cannabis, it doesn't seem likely to come close to producing the kind of high-quality bud that can be found here.

Why? Because in this bunker, there is passion and a genuine belief in the healing powers that different strains of medical marijuana can offer for a variety of ailments. Truthfully, the operator and brains behind this facility would prefer to be carrying out his cultivation efforts under the open sky. It's prohibition that still necessitates this thick-walled, concrete-encased production facility, even if it's federally authorized.

There may come a day when nature's pharmacy is open 24/7 for everyone, be it on their balcony or in their backyard; however, for the time being, patients can be thankful for these high-grade medicinal bunker buds and the dedicated people who make it all happen. ■

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# Legalized It!

Voters in Colorado and Washington State made history on Election Day 2012 with a full frontal attack on the federal government's ongoing pot prohibition. So is it time to "break out the Cheetos," or will the Feds strike back? *By David Bienenstock*



**T**his November, voters in Colorado and Washington State approved by a wide margin ballot measures legalizing possession of up to an ounce of marijuana for all adults 21 and over, plus state-licensed commercial cultivation and sales. The Rocky Mountain State will also allow up to six plants to be grown at home for personal use.

Neither state's governor supported passage of the initiatives, but both have vowed to faithfully implement the new laws. Though Colorado's John Hickenlooper—who made his fortune as proprietor of Denver's first brew pub—apparently couldn't help but greet his constituents' clear desire for a safer legal alternative to alcohol with a lame pot joke at their expense.

"The voters have spoken, and we have to respect their will," he commented

on election night, after Amendment 64 legalized marijuana with 55 percent in favor. "This will be a complicated process, but we intend to follow through. That said, federal law still says marijuana is an illegal drug, so don't break out the Cheetos or Goldfish too quickly."

When the smoke cleared and the results were in, pot legalization had drawn far more votes in Colorado than President Barack Obama, who narrowly won the state while handily winning reelection. And speaking of good old Barry from the Choom Gang, after four years of broken promises on medical marijuana, the ball's now squarely back in his court.

Tellingly, throughout a presidential election that burned through billions of dollars in mudslinging attack ads, neither major-party candidate raised the pot issue, presumably for fear of a backlash at the ballot box from America's

new marijuana majority. Even US Attorney General Eric Holder kept mum.

In 2010, less than a month before California voters decided the fate of Proposition 19—a legalization initiative that fell short with 46 percent of the vote—Holder announced unequivocally that the Justice Department would not tolerate the non-medical use of marijuana. So why the lack of a similar statement this time around?

Clearly, support for marijuana legalization has climbed so high (the Rasmussen polling firm says 56 percent nationwide) that defending the status quo has become an electoral liability. Alison Holcomb, drug-policy director for the ACLU of Washington and campaign director for that state's successful Initiative 502 legalization effort, believes the Obama administration's silence speaks volumes about marijuana's increasing political clout.





Marijuana activists celebrate their big win at the Amendment 64 victory party in Denver. Inset: Mason Tvert headed the Colorado ballot initiative that legalized marijuana with 55% of the vote.



“Our plan to hopefully head off serious organized opposition started when we drafted I-502, which is why you saw such a conservative legalization initiative followed by a rather boring campaign,” Holcomb explained. “We also tried to mainstream this issue with the people we recruited to be sponsors and endorsers, including law enforcement and public health officials—two areas where we typically draw opposition.”

In both Colorado and Washington State, well-financed, professionally staffed campaigns pushed hard every day to make history, bringing together top local advocates and grassroots organizers, national movement leaders, and even the rare politician unafraid to state the obvious: that the War on Marijuana is a costly,

understanding of and exposure to regulated cannabis as a key factor in securing such a sweeping victory.

“For the last eight years, we’ve had an in-depth public discussion about marijuana in this state—specifically the fact that it is far less harmful than alcohol,” Tvert said. “Since the beginning, the goal has been to build support for an initiative like Amendment 64, because we know that the number one factor associated with people supporting legalization is that they understand that marijuana is indeed safer than alcohol. The other element is the establishment of a regulated medical marijuana system, which has since demonstrated that when marijuana is effectively regulated, that can be incredibly beneficial to our state.”



dehumanizing, racist, unconstitutional case of big government gone wild at the expense of liberty and justice for all.

New Approach Washington, the organization formed to fight for I-502, boasted an incredible slate of official endorsers, including current Seattle City Attorney Pete Holmes and Mayor Michael McGinn, former US Attorney for the Western District of Washington John McKay (the highest-ranking American law enforcement official ever to support legalization), PBS travel guide and national NORML advisory board member Rick Steves and State Representative Mary Lou Dickerson.

In Colorado, Mason Tvert, co-director of the Campaign to Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol, relied on his deep roots as a local reformer and a simple, consistent message: *Marijuana is safer than alcohol, and adults shouldn't be punished for choosing that alternative.*

Speaking to *High Times* just days after the election, while waiting to board a plane bound for Los Angeles and a live appearance on *Real Time with Bill Maher*, Tvert pointed to the electorate's increased

### Implementation: The Marijuana Stores Are Coming!

The moment Governor Hickenlooper officially adds Amendment 64 to the state constitution, possession of up to an ounce of marijuana and cultivation of up to six plants (three mature) at home becomes legal statewide, while regulations concerning commercial cultivation and distribution will take more than a year to develop, with the first stores opening in January 2014 at the earliest. State legislators will likely base their regulatory framework on Colorado's current “seed to sales” medical marijuana program, which is overseen by the Medical Marijuana Enforcement Division within the Department of Revenue. Local jurisdictions will be able to ban marijuana sales, but they can't outlaw personal possession and cultivation. The new law does not in any way affect Colorado's existing medical marijuana law, but currently operating medical marijuana dispensaries in good standing will be given some preference if they decide to switch over to recreational sales.

Growing legally for a living,

meanwhile, will require a lot more than a 1,000-watt light, some clones and a dream. You'll need a state license and to be in compliance with local laws, including all the fees, regulations and bureaucratic red tape that go along with pioneering in an industry that used to be illegal. Still, the economic benefits of bringing this huge cash crop above ground will be astronomical, and those with the knowledge and experience to cultivate top-grade cannabis will surely find themselves highly coveted employees in a true growth industry.

In Washington State, possessing an ounce becomes legal on December 6. The same day, a new “drugged driving” standard also goes into effect, including a per se DUI law that designates anyone with more than five nanograms of active THC per milliliter of whole blood as legally impaired. I-502 does not allow personal cultivation, but medical marijuana patients will maintain their right to grow 15 plants, as the initiative does not alter existing medical marijuana law.

The Washington State Liquor Control Board will regulate commercial cultivation and sales, including in-state farmers growing cannabis to be sold in stand-alone marijuana-only stores operated as private businesses. A 25 percent tax will be applied to both wholesale and retail sales, with 40 percent of those revenues earmarked for the state general fund and local budgets, and the remainder dedicated to substance abuse prevention, research, education and health care. The initiative gives state regulators until December 2013 to create and begin to implement rules for the industry.

### The Feds vs. the New Green Economy

If the Department of Justice does decide to make threats or crack down in the interim, the president will have to explain why we're spending money borrowed from China to kill American jobs.

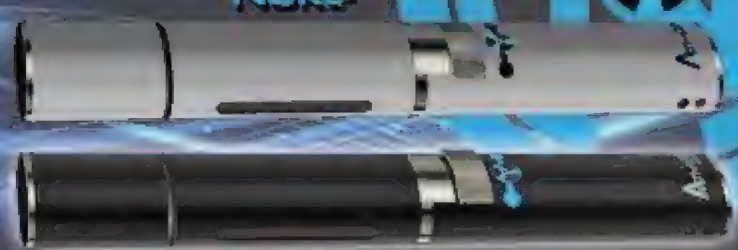
According to the Washington State Office of Financial Management, marijuana excise taxes, retail taxes, and business and occupation taxes will generate more than half a billion dollars in new revenue for the state each year. Similarly, an economic analysis conducted by the Colorado Center on Law and Policy predicted that legalization would yield some \$60 million per year in combined revenue and savings for state and local governments.

Both initiatives also legalize hemp production, another new, potentially lucrative industry—one built around



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"Everybody's talking about tourism, the same way you can go to southeast Washington and stay at all these little boutique B&Bs and enjoy the fine wine of that region," said PBS travel guide Rick Steves, a leading proponent and financial backer of I-502. "But right now, I'm not really looking at it that way at all. Who knows what will happen down the road, when people get more comfortable with this—but I think the immediate impact is that public health officials and legislators in other states will be emboldened by the fact that very credible mainstream people have endorsed this publicly. My hope is that they will look at Washington and Colorado as an example and decide to make similar laws in their own states."

On election night, Colorado's polls closed hours before Washington's, so those gathered for the Amendment 64 campaign's results-watching party in downtown Denver had the honor of being the first to officially declare victory. Stacia Cosner, associate director of Students for Sensible Drug Policy, flew from her office in Washington, DC, to spend the final week of the campaign on the ground in the Mile High City. With chapters on

**"Public health officials and legislators in other states will be emboldened... They will look at Washington and Colorado as an example."**

more than 200 college campuses nationwide, SSDP ranks among the largest and fastest-growing youth-based social justice organizations in the nation.

"I'm so incredibly proud of our students and their dedication to the cause," Cosner said, citing SSDP volunteers in Colorado who helped to get out the vote on campus, plus another 500 members nationwide who made more than 17,000

calls via a virtual phone bank. "Words can hardly do justice to the triumphant atmosphere at the victory party. After they announced that the initiative had passed, we spent the next 45 minutes just hugging and cheering and congratulating each other. Everyone's phones kept buzzing as friends and family got in touch to share in the historic occasion."

#### **Amnesty for Pot Prisoners?**

Neither of the new laws addresses the topic of amnesty for the nonviolent pot prisoners currently stuck in a black hole for this most victimless of crimes, but their passage is certainly a good omen for those seeking clemency.

"People generally aren't serving long prison terms for six plants or one ounce—certainly not in Colorado or Washington State," observed noted California criminal-defense attorney Bill Panzer. "So does this give anyone grounds to go into court and have a 10-year mandatory minimum cut short? No. But if you're doing 10 years, this should give you hope that we're going in the right direction."

Robert Platshorn spent nearly three decades in federal lockup as a first-time nonviolent offender, earning the onetime marijuana smuggler the dubious

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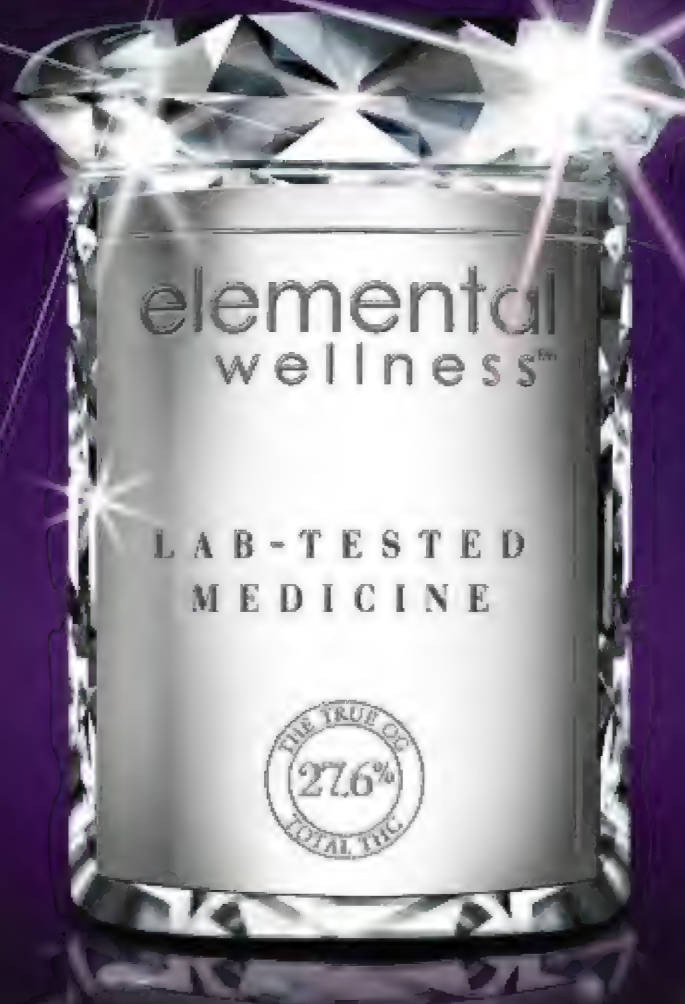
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distinction of being the United States' longest-serving pot prisoner. Upon his release in 2008, he began to advocate for legalization via his Silver Tour, which brings the true facts about medical marijuana directly to senior citizens.

Platshorn believes the new laws "put a key in the cell-house door for long-term pot prisoners," but that the key won't turn until the federal government either removes marijuana from its current highly restricted status as a Schedule 1 "dangerous" drug, or goes a step further and decriminalizes it nationally.

"Speaking from experience, I can tell you that from the moment legalization in Colorado and Washington was announced, every federal marijuana prisoner felt renewed hope of once again reuniting with family and friends and rejoining the free world," Platshorn said. "Like I did for so many years, they grasp at even the tiniest bit of light at the end of the tunnel. For when you're in prison, hope is more important than food—which is why I have no intention of stopping my activism until all nonviolent pot prisoners are free."

Every political movement needs an elder statesman, someone whose deep and abiding commitment commands

**"The economic benefits of bringing this huge cash crop aboveground will be astronomical. Those with the knowledge and experience to cultivate top-grade cannabis will surely find themselves highly coveted employees in a true growth industry."**

respect and provides inspiration to all those who join the cause. When it comes to legalizing marijuana, Dr. Lester Grinspoon, associate professor emeritus at Harvard Medical School, fills that vital role. The author of *Marihuana Reconsidered* (1971) has long since retired from teaching, but at 83, he continues to write frequently about medical marijuana, offer his impeccable credentials to many activist organizations, and educate the public through his own websites and frequent media interviews.

On election night, in addition to legalization in Colorado and Washington, Grinspoon also took great joy in the fact

that his home state of Massachusetts approved medical marijuana with 63 percent of the vote, becoming the 18th state in the nation to do so.

"For me, it was a truly historic night, because the end of alcohol prohibition started with the states, and I believe the same thing will happen with marijuana," Dr. Grinspoon told *High Times*. "Speaking as a physician who came to marijuana believing that it was a terrible drug, I now know that it's one of the most important things in my life personally—and not just as a medicine, but as something that can enhance a wide variety of human capacities. I hope a lot more prominent people who've shied away from talking about their beneficial use of marijuana will now finally come out, because the stereotypes surrounding cannabis users need to change."

"You know, in the academic and medical fields, there are a lot of very bright people—and very nice people. But through marijuana, I've had the opportunity to meet a whole different kind of person, and I'm incredibly appreciative of that," Dr. Grinspoon added. "The marijuana experience for me will always be a people experience. And all of those people, including me, deserve freedom." ✱

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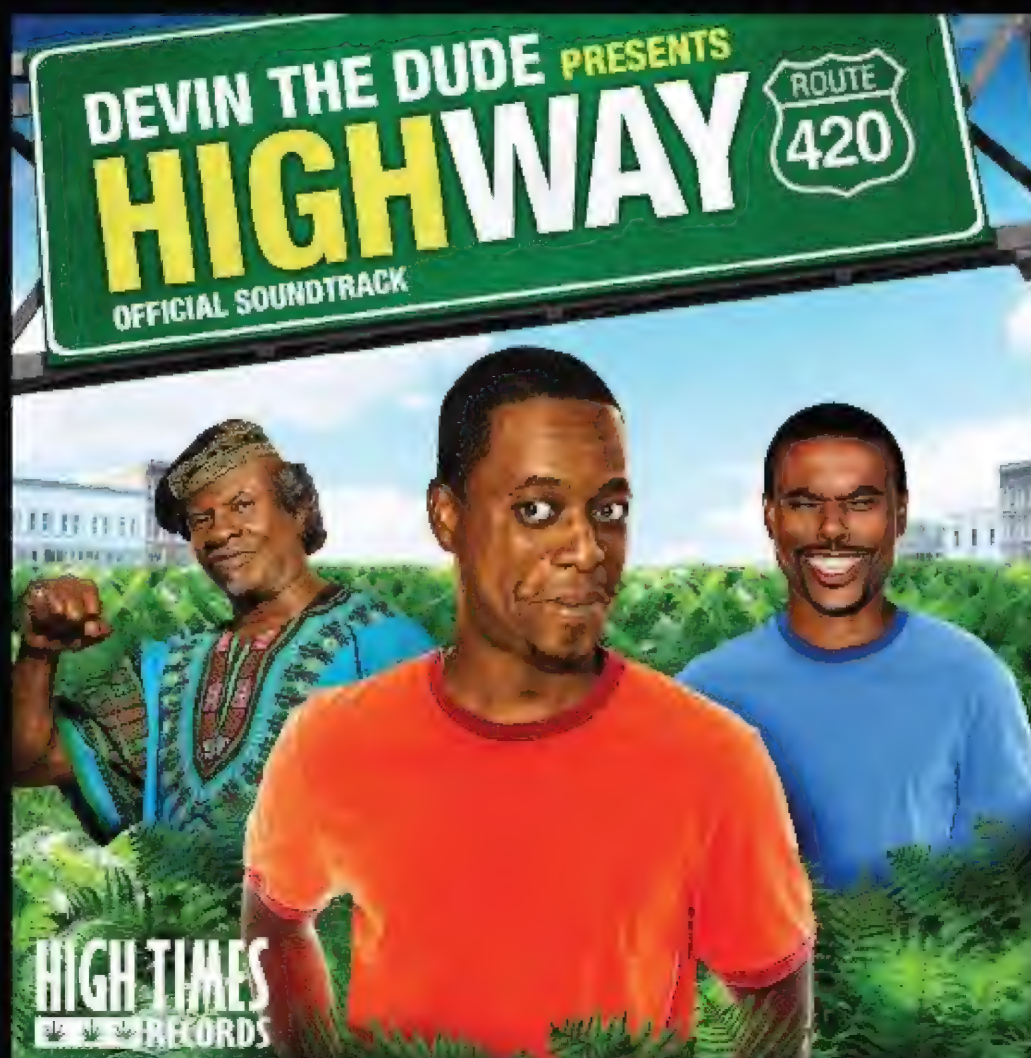
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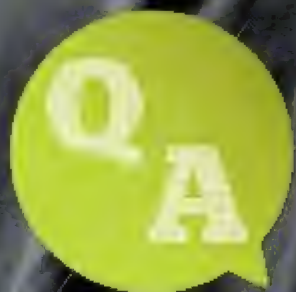
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The director of the new documentary *The House I Live In* calls the War on Drugs an assault on America's minorities and the working class.



Story and photos by  
TYLER STEWART

# EUGENE JARECKI

THE HIGH TIMES INTERVIEW






The director of *The House I Live In* discusses the appalling human toll of the War on Drugs.

**I**F NOVEMBER TAUGHT AMERICANS ANYTHING, IT'S THAT THE COUNTRY IS WAKING UP. INFORMATION'S RENDEZVOUS WITH DESPERATION HAS CAUSED THE VEIL NOT SIMPLY TO BE LIFTED, BUT VIOLENTLY RIPPED FROM THE FACE OF A SOCIETY LONG ENTRENCHED IN FALSE HOPES AND "TRADITIONAL VALUES" THAT HAVE SO OFTEN UNDERCUT THE RIGHTS OF SIGNIFICANT GROUPS OF PEOPLE. GAYS AND LESBIANS, THE POOR, ETHNIC MINORITIES AND, YEAH, EVEN STONERS SAW MAJOR VICTORIES OUT OF THIS ROUND AT THE POLLS. BUT WHILE POSITIVE CHANGE HAS SHOWN ITS FACE, THE QUIBBLING GOES ON, THE ECONOMY REMAINS WEAK, AND OUR POLITICS GROW MORE BRUTAL AND RIFE WITH TRIVIA. THIS POSES THE INEVITABLE QUESTION: WHAT COMES NEXT? FOR THOSE FIGHTING UNFAIR DRUG LAWS, UNCERTAINTIES REMAIN. WILL THE LEGALIZATION INITIATIVES PASSED IN WASHINGTON AND COLORADO SEE THE RAPID-FIRE ADOPTION OF SIMILAR LEGISLATION IN OTHER STATES? WILL THAT LEGISLATION PREVENT TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE FROM GOING TO JAIL THIS YEAR? WILL THE FEDS GO HARD AND HEAVY INTO THESE FRESHLY MINTED POT-FRIENDLY STATES? WHILE THE FUTURE REMAINS UNCLEAR, IT ALL COMES DOWN TO THE CATALYST THAT STARTED IT ALL: INFORMATION. BECAUSE IN TERMS OF WINNING THE WAR ON DRUGS, THERE IS NO BETTER WEAPON.

ONCE YOU CONSIDER THE BIGGER PICTURE, HOWEVER, RECENT POT VICTORIES LOOK A LOT SMALLER. RIGHT NOW, THERE ARE BUSINESSMEN CRAMMED INTO BOARDROOMS AND LOBBYISTS SWARMING THE HALLS OF CONGRESS, ALL FIGHTING TO SEND PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS TO JAIL. WHY? FOR ONE REASON ONLY: *BECAUSE IT'S PROFITABLE*. IT'S BEEN DUBBED THE "PRISON-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX," A SYSTEM IN WHICH PRIVATE PRISONS GO UP AND DRUG OFFENDERS GO IN. ACCORDING TO THE NEW DOCUMENTARY *THE HOUSE I LIVE IN*, THIS IS NOTHING LESS THAN A "HOLOCAUST IN SLOW MOTION." DIRECTOR EUGENE JARECKI, KNOWN FOR HIS RELENTLESSLY HONEST EXPOSITIONS OF POLITICAL MANIPULATION IN TWO OTHER ACCLAIMED DOCUMENTARIES, 2002'S *THE TRIALS OF HENRY KISSINGER* AND 2005'S *WHY WE FIGHT*, OFFERS A STARK LOOK AT THE CREATION AND WAREHOUSING OF DRUG WAR "CRIMINALS," PARTICULARLY THE INNER-CITY MINORITIES MOST AFFECTED BY DRUG CHARGES. IT'S A FILM THAT DEMANDS TO BE SEEN, AND ITS IMPLICATIONS ARE EVERY BIT AS FRIGHTENING AS THEY ARE WELL-CONSIDERED—SO MUCH SO THAT *THE HOUSE I LIVE IN* TOOK HOME THE GRAND JURY PRIZE IN THE DOCUMENTARY CATEGORY AT THE SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL IN 2012.

AT HIS PRODUCTION OFFICE IN LOWER MANHATTAN, THE DIRECTOR TALKED ABOUT THE RAMIFICATIONS OF THIS GRIM REALITY, WHAT ROLE AMERICANS CAN PLAY IN BRINGING IT TO AN END, AND WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF WE DON'T.



### **Right off the bat, why did you make this documentary?**

I was concerned about the challenges I saw facing a lot of people I knew in the African-American community. I grew up in the wake of the civil rights movement, and like many Americans, I expected a lot of progress for black people after that period ... but instead, what I saw was something that seemed to be thwarting black progress in America. We have a black president, of course, and major black celebrities who have made tremendous contributions to American life. But for the masses of black people, the leading indicators—social, political, economic—have been grim for a long time, and they have not been getting any better. And when I tried to understand that, time and again, the people I spoke to would talk about the way in which the criminal justice system was incarcerating so many black Americans that, in many ways, it seemed to be the culprit. And, of course, what had exploded this growth in the criminal justice system? The War on Drugs.

### **How specifically have anti-drug policies caused this sort of inequality?**

Since Richard Nixon declared the War on Drugs in 1971, we have seen a 700 percent increase in our prison population, and about half of those are African-Americans. The disproportion of blacks in our criminal justice system, and the way the War on Drugs produced that explosion, became my focus as I tried to understand what this represented as an obstacle to black progress. I began to look at the War on Drugs as a major factor, but I didn't understand the full contours of it. I really didn't understand what I was dealing with—the size of this institution as an aspect of American life, of our economy.

### **So what did you find?**

I traveled around to 25 states to see the War on Drugs at all levels, from the drug dealer to the community to family members, all the way to the cops, judges, wardens, jailers—to see it from everybody's perspective, because it's a machine that occupies the lives of so many in this country. I wanted to understand how those communities are affected—not just those that were on the receiving end of the law, but also those who have to enforce those laws and run the prisons as repositories. I was able to gain a picture of a system that has everybody caught in its grip.

### **Do you think that when the War on Drugs started, it was intended to become what it is now?**

I think there's a lot of ways to look at anything and ask whether or not it's a conspiracy. But it's not necessary to conjecture whether the War on Drugs was launched with conspiratorial goals in mind: It's enough to say that it was hatched for reasons of political expedience. Nixon, for example, launches the Drug War and makes himself sound like a tough-on-crime warrior, when, in fact, he spent two-thirds of his anti-drug budget on treatment and only a third on law enforcement and convictions. Nixon was, in many ways, a model of treatment- and compassion-oriented policy-making, and yet he gave the impression of the opposite to keep himself elected.

Once Nixon won in a landslide in 1972, politicians of all stripes learned the lesson. So, in the mind of any single politician, were they thinking, "I'm going to talk this way so that I can destroy those people"? Probably not. But if you add them all together, they start to build a monster that, in the aggregate, is preying upon human lives—and



that's when conspiracy *does* come in, because then you have the bureaucratic thrust that arises around the War on Drugs, where vested interests want to start blocking reform and common sense.

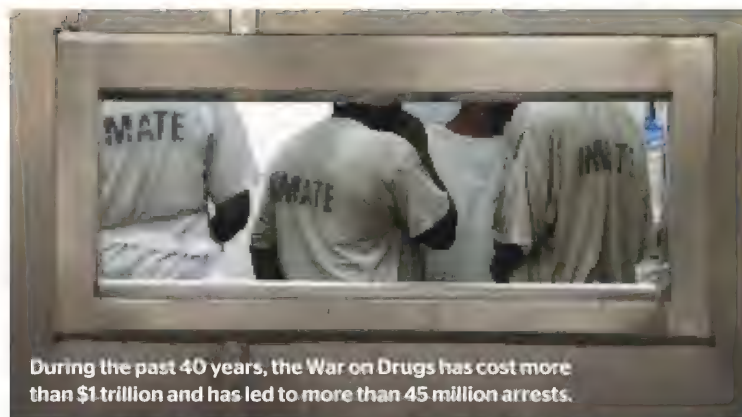
**And those interests ultimately decided to come down hard on minorities? In what way?**

You had, for example, the famous crack-versus-powder-cocaine disparity. Crack was punished 100 times more severely than powder. Historically, if I'm walking down the street with five grams of crack and you're walking down the street with powder, you need to have 500 grams of powder on you to get the same sentence—even though they're the same drug. In fact, yours is massively more valuable in its pure form than my much more penny-ante crack possession. And so that 100:1 disparity was medically unsound, scientifically nonsensical, and ultimately very destructive to the black community that was associated with crack and being policed more robustly.

When all of that was brought to light in front of Congress, people like Orrin Hatch—and sometimes unseen others—sat and said loudly, “We don’t believe what you’re saying. We’re going to stick to our tough-on-crime approach.” They overruled the experts ... and so what would cause them to overrule the experts, other than—and here’s where one does get a little bit conspiratorial—a deep attachment to a growing industry that was profitable to their corporate patrons?

**So corporate America benefits from the drug war?**

You have congresspeople in that all-too-familiar role of working on behalf of corporate America, which supports one of the largest federal programs in the history of the world—the War on Drugs, which spent \$1 trillion over 40 years, resulting in 45 million



“This trail of disaster and woe has been known to Congress for years, yet it is robustly opposed to reform and blocks it at every turn. And you have to ask why.”

arrests. And we’ve gotten nowhere: Drugs are cheaper, more available, more in use by younger and younger people than ever before. So this trail of disaster and woe has been known to Congress for years and years and years, and yet it is robustly opposed to reform and blocks it at every turn. And you have to ask why.

**In contrast to those in authority who are corrupt, what role does society have in pushing back? Do you think there’s a public passivity that prevents progress, or do you think the public’s hands are tied because of the overpowering financial interests?**

I think the public has a tremendous amount to answer for in the last 20 years in so many areas, where we acquiesced to the fear-mongering that our politicians engage in as a brand of American politics that has now taken over our lives. The WMDs that weren’t there in Iraq is a classic case of Americans being completely manipulated. Likewise, we’ve heard rhetoric about the “evildoers” among the drug-using and drug-selling population. And what have we seen happen? We’ve seen that police departments have now become so preoccupied with petty drug arrests,

and completely atrophied in their ability to solve real crimes.

**A big part of the film focuses on law-enforcement officers filing many overtime pay slips for their drug busts each month, but the guy who’s out solving a murder or rape is getting just one per month ...**

As [*The Wire* creator] David Simon says in the film, a police officer’s base pay might be only half of what he’s getting, because the rest is from the overtime generated by this incredibly busy work of cheap and easy drug arrests. Well, that is not enhancing public safety; that’s hurting it. Being “tough on crime” and applying that policy to drug-addicted people and small-time drug sellers has done nothing to curb the problem; instead, it has tremendously *deepened* it.

**So how can people take action?**

With our votes—and we can also act by supporting groups who are targeting key pieces of legislation around this country that could begin to move us out of this excessively draconian posture and into something more reasoned. Those groups include Families Against Mandatory Minimums, which fights the

extraordinary grip that mandatory minimums have on judges. Judges don’t get to use their own discretion in sentencing people; they have to do exactly what the congressional laws dictate. These are congresspeople who are now infecting the legal decisions made by judges—whom we intentionally don’t elect because we don’t want them to be vulnerable to that kind of public pressure. So the division of powers between the branches of government is being compromised by this.

And then, of course, more Americans should take on the broader idea of decriminalizing drugs entirely, as Portugal has done with great success. The verdict is in that decriminalization has been proven better than what we’ve been doing. And that’s not legalization—that’s decriminalization, which is distinctly different.

**Let’s talk about drug addiction as a health issue—another point that’s brought up in the film. Columbia University professor Carl Hart says that addiction is the result of pain, and our focus should be on getting to the root of the pain.**

I think he’s pointing out that in this country, we treat drug addiction in the same primitive way we treat many things that people experience in this society. The causes of drug addiction are ultimately a matter of personal health, and therefore a matter of public health. I am baffled that when it comes to the treatment of addiction, we have fallen so far behind our Western neighbors in understanding it. By dealing with it in the way that we have—by not separating the violent from the nonviolent, by not separating drug use from drug abuse, and by not separating drug abuse from violent crime—we’ve painted with a broad brush and made an absolute mess of the situation.

**The War on Drugs is referred**



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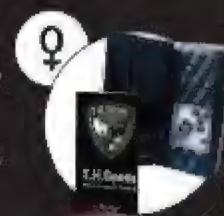
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to in the film as a “Holocaust in slow motion”—a very heavy statement. Why do you think the country still has a mindset that wishes to bring down certain groups of individuals?

I think that everybody always wants to think they’re making progress—and I hate to say it, but in America a lot of the time we have mistaken pushing others down for moving ourselves up. We’ve had drug laws since the mid-1800s in this country. We started by persecuting Chinese migrant workers: We passed opium laws that harassed, detained and incarcerated those people, even though the mass number of users of opium in America were middle-aged white women in the South. Did we persecute those people? No. The next laws were passed about black Americans in Reconstruction, whom we then associated with cocaine—to say that a black person plus cocaine equals a threat to you and your community. It was



Jarecki's appeal to end the drug war throws no soft punches.

all very racially charged. After that we saw the “Mexicanization” of hemp, which was a revered crop since the time of the Republic’s founding. Hemp was suddenly called *marijuana*, a Spanish-sounding name that made it possible to refer to it as “Mexican opium” so that we could specifically target and harass Mexican-Americans. So we’ve had several chapters of this, and the last 40 years is just the latest chapter. I think we remain a country plagued by our past, and our prisons are

“Once the drug war was declared, a system emerged which feeds on human lives for profit.”

full of people who reflect that.

It’s the *prison-industrial* system. Once the drug war was declared, a system emerged which feeds on human lives for profit and therefore is more color-blind ... you want to diversify, as crass as that may seem. And I don’t think individual people within the prison-industrial system think that crassly, necessarily—but the machine as a whole does, because it looks to pay off its shareholders, improve its bottom line, give out handsome bonuses, pay its employees, build more facilities, and grow, grow, grow.

**What do you hope that people will take away from the film?**

I hope people take away two things. On the one hand, I want people to know that

the “War on Drugs” should be a dirty word. It is a grotesque, tragic failure that was launched wrong-headedly once upon a time and has been fed corruptly by vested interests for 40 years. It’s bankrupting us economically, spiritually and morally. The criminal justice system in America is a road to nowhere—one that’s destroying an enormous number of American lives, costing a huge amount of money and making us the laughing stock of the civilized world. On the other hand, people need to get involved in their communities to go after elements of the War on Drugs that are vulnerable—places where reform is possible, and where the insiders themselves agree that change is needed.

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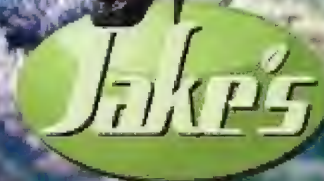


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# Expert Grow Advice

Personal growing, CO<sub>2</sub> for roots, ladybugs, molds and more ...



Send your cannabis cultivation questions to [deardanko@hightimes.com](mailto:deardanko@hightimes.com).

**SUBJECT** Ladybugs

**FROM** Organica

🌱 I try to grow as clean as possible—I even subscribe to Kyle Kushman's recommendations for "veganic" farming—but I've had some issues from time to time with a variety of pests. My question is: Can ladybugs really eradicate spider mites or thrips?

Dear Organica,  
You're smart to grow your herb using earth-friendly renewable resources. Many times, people grow clean cannabis and then end up poisoning it with nasty bug sprays in order to fight an infestation. Predator insects such as ladybugs are useful in controlling these pest populations, but they aren't likely to completely destroy them. Ladybugs migrate and don't tend to stick around until the very last mite is dead. Let loose on outdoor plants, they'll feast where they can and then fly away. Indoors, they'll fly into your exhaust fan or sometimes right into your grow lights; either way, you end up with a bunch of dead ladybugs. It's a bit depressing, and they smell awful after you step on them by accident.

For true organic, integrated pest management, you need to use a variety of methods, including spraying plants with neem or rosemary oil, using predatory insects and misting leaves with an organic insecticidal soap mixed with water. Don't forget some sort of root soak to kill the insect eggs and larvae. And remember to monitor your plants closely throughout treatment and every day afterward.

Ladybugs feast on the insects that plague our plants.





*Danko Tip:* Run CO<sub>2</sub> generators or tanks only when your grow lights are on.



Male cannabis flowers emerge from the nodes where leaves meet.

SUBJECT: **Male Genitalia**

FROM: **Li'l Smokey**

🌿 I just planted a gang of seeds indoors, and I need to know what the male plants will look like. I was told I have to get rid of them soon.

Dear Smokey,  
If your seedlings are indoors under at least 18 hours of light per day, you've still got some time. They won't begin to truly show their flowers until after you switch the timer on your grow lamp to 12 hours of light and 12 hours of darkness per day. Then, within two to three weeks, you'll see clear signs of sex.

The female flowers will emerge as a teardrop-shaped calyx with a white hair sticking out. This first starts happening at the nodes where the leaves meet the branches. The male flowers will look more like sharp spikes and are noticeably less rounded. As they mature, the spikes will form into what resemble tiny bunches of green bananas.

Get rid of these plants as soon as you know they're males for sure. Otherwise, the "bananas" will open up and drop pollen all over your flowering females, and that will leave you with a crop full of relatively worthless seeds instead of the seedless female nuggets you're hoping for.

SUBJECT: **Personal Grow**

FROM: **Justin L.**

🌿 Hello, Danny. I'm just an average stoner, but I'm very interested in learning how to grow. Could you possibly give me some pointers on how to begin? It's going to be a small operation, maybe four plants, but that's plenty for my own personal use. If you can give me a shopping list for a starter kit, that would be dope (pun intended). Thanks a million. Peace!

Dear Justin,  
There are things you absolutely need to grow your own weed, and there are things that are not essential but can make your life easier and help you increase yields. The essential items are a proper space to grow in, a grow light of some sort, containers, a growing medium and seeds or clones of the strain you're planning to cultivate. Along with that, you'll need nutrients, water, fans and some sort of air-filtration system.

Another essential thing you'll need is knowledge—i.e., reading issues of *High Times*, checking out reputable Internet forums and getting yourself a basic understanding of how all plants grow. The important thing is to spend wisely on the essentials and then worry about the add-ons later. Don't go buying the

most expensive hydroponic unit in the store right off the bat; you'll find that as you learn and progress as a grower, you'll better know which products or gear might help make your harvests heavier.

SUBJECT: **Kit and Kaboodle**

FROM: **Jessi & James**

🌿 If you were to put together the ultimate first-aid/emergency kit for your garden, what would it contain? We were so excited to hear our question answered on episode 27 of your podcast that we had to send in another one. We love your show! Thanks for all the *Free Weed*!

Dear J&J,

I appreciate your kind words about my podcast—thanks for contributing to the column and the show! I recommend having a fire extinguisher and a burn kit for human emergencies, but I imagine that you're really asking about pests, etc. For that, you should have a spray bottle filled with water and neem or rosemary oil, as well as a magnifying glass or loupe in order to examine the leaf surfaces more closely. Also, you should always have zip ties or some other fastener on hand to attach branches that are starting to bend to any stakes or trellis that you might be using.

SUBJECT: **Root Boost**

FROM: **Farmer Will**

🌿 I was wondering about injecting CO<sub>2</sub> into my hydro system for root absorption. I have a pipe-dream-style top-feed system using aeroponic misters. I was researching new methods for my system and started thinking: If I have a timed release of small amounts of CO<sub>2</sub> from a tank into the tubes, would that help the yields? Would the release be too cold for the roots? Also, because CO<sub>2</sub>'s heavier, would it follow the drain back to the res? Would the 360-degree sprayers mix it up enough so that it would be evenly dispersed? Also, would having medical oxygen pumped into the tubes help in a similar way if CO<sub>2</sub> wouldn't?

I was thinking of using a timer and the same kind of system as for the sprayers, but say four times a day for a couple minutes each injected directly into the root chamber. I know CO<sub>2</sub> from a tank is not the cheapest way to go, but I was wondering



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*Danko Tip:* Some strains turn purple due to genetics, but some do it only when exposed to cold temperatures.

The strain called Bruce Banner grows big and green when angered (lame Hulk joke).



if small amounts injected directly into the root chamber would use less gas than trying to fill a room.

Any help or input would be greatly appreciated. Depending on how quickly you reply, I just might have some data on how it worked! Take care, and thank you for the years of support through your articles.

Dear Will,  
I don't recommend pumping CO<sub>2</sub> into your hydroponic tubes. Roots take in oxygen, not CO<sub>2</sub>, so pumping O<sub>2</sub> would be more effective. But you don't need an oxygen tank to accomplish this, since oxygenation can be achieved with simple aquarium-style air pumps and air stones. You can have these in your reservoir as well as in the chamber that the roots sit in, since it's almost impossible to give them too much oxygen as they grow.

SUBJECT: **Best Light**

FROM: **Josh**

What lighting is the best to use, in your opinion?

Dear Josh,  
If you have the space as well as the capacity to deal with and remove the heat generated, the best lights to use in growing marijuana are, in my opinion, high-intensity discharge (HID) lights. This means 1,000-watt metal halide (MH) lights for the vegetative stage and 1,000-watt high-pressure sodium (HPS) lights during flowering. These lights can cover about a 5' x

5' footprint and will produce the biggest buds, as long as all of the other factors (water, food, heat, air circulation, etc.) are under control and kept within the proper parameters.

SUBJECT: **Sizzling Sensi**

FROM: **Dan**

Hello from Canada! Today I came across a strain of weed that sizzles and makes noise when it's burned. It appears to be okay, has no seeds and is just as potent as others I've smoked. So I thought that maybe you could set the record straight on this phenomenon.

Dear Dan,  
Sizzling weed cannot be a good thing—it's either heavily overfertilized or has actually been treated with some sort of chemical. I would highly recommend not smoking cannabis that sizzles or makes any other strange noise when you smoke it. Horror stories like this are one of the reasons I encourage people to grow their own marijuana. That way, you know everything that went into (or onto) your plants.

SUBJECT: **Mold or Not?**

FROM: **Tony Adidas**

These are all pics of the same buds, just with different lighting (four separate buds included). The buds were cut, trimmed, manicured and dried, then placed in a Mason jar with a couple of tiny orange



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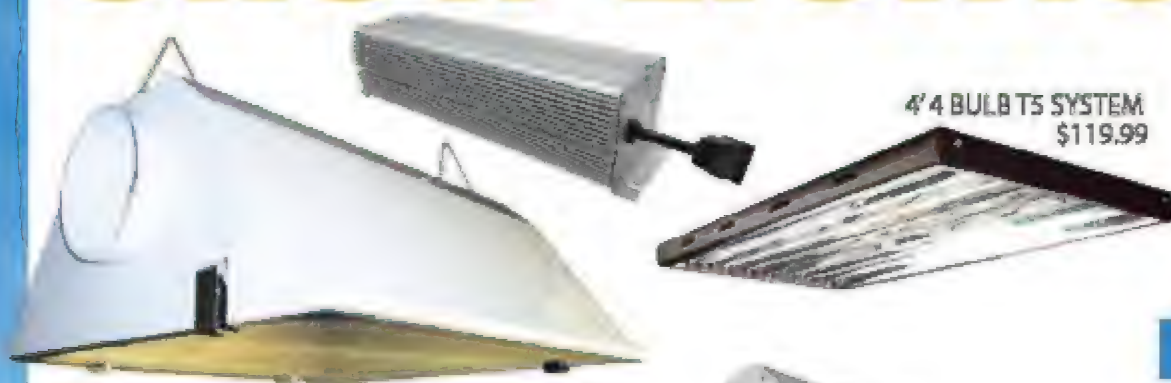
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*Danko Tip:* Remove dust from leaf surfaces by spraying them with water to increase the photosynthetic process.

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peels. They are not wet, just sticky. They smell and taste great. My question to you is, can you see mold on them? I'm a first-time guy, and I'm not sure what to look for. (I've done my research, but I need a second opinion.) Also, could you help me out with identifying this strain? Any sort of information would be great.

Dear Tony,

From the photos you sent, I can see that the buds are moldy. I recommend getting rid of them immediately. The mistake you made was in storing them in a jar with orange peels. The peels have too much moisture and, as they got older, they released it to your buds. Even if they taste okay, it's dangerous to smoke them, since any inhaled molds can be harmful to your health.

As for the strain, it's impossible for me to tell from the photos what variety you grew. Next time, store the buds in jars on their own and monitor the moisture content by opening the jars if the buds still exhibit signs of wetness or if you see any dampness accumulating on the inside of the glass.

SUBJECT: **Ground Up**

FROM **Elliot**

🌱 This next season, I plan on growing some Northern Lights out in the backyard. So the question is, how should I start my plants? I have no access to indoor grow lights, so can I just germinate and plant directly into the ground?

Dear Elliot,

You can plant directly in the ground, but there are a few things to consider. Make sure to plant in an area that gets plenty of sunshine throughout the growing season. It's also a great idea to dig out a large hole, removing the existing soil and replacing it with a lighter, airier, organic soilless mix. This will allow the roots to get air and water at better levels than they would with the packed-together dirt in your yard (unless you're planting in an already existing garden).

Another great idea to improve the health and vigor of your seedlings is to use a cold frame or mini-greenhouse early on. This keeps them warm while also sheltering them from harsh winds or too much direct sunlight. You'll also be able to plant sooner, resulting in larger plants come harvest time. Start thinking about how you're going to keep all those heavy branches from falling down by introducing some form of trellising or sturdy stakes to support their weight. 🌱



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## Fact-Checking

### Driving, dabs and a decline in busts.



Got a question for Dr. Mitch? Email him at [420research@gmail.com](mailto:420research@gmail.com).

What are these roadside sobriety tests you're always ranting about?

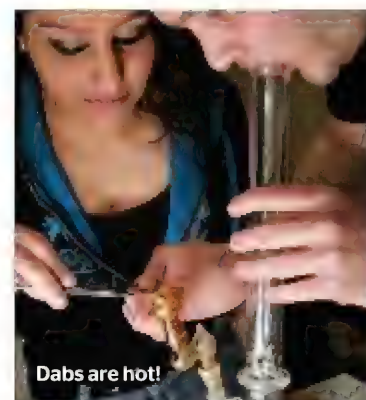
*Driver Dan*

Hi Dan,  
Actually, I've always bad-mouthed urine screens, since they're no indicator of driving impairment: Metabolites can still be present in the urine of someone who hasn't used the plant in weeks. At least roadside sobriety tests have some correlation with recent use. One test requires standing on one foot, with the other foot raised six inches off the ground in front of you. You must gaze at your foot and count aloud for 30 seconds. If you sway, use your arms for balance, hop or put your foot down, it's possible that you may have used cannabis recently. Of course, you also may have used alcohol or antihistamines—or maybe you're just plain tired. These tests aren't perfect, but they do beat urine screens.

What's up with dabs?

*Dab-Curious Dave*

Hi Dave,  
Dabbing—i.e., placing a small amount of cannabis extract on a hot nail and inhaling the smoke—is catching on fast in many places. Dab fans emphasize the rapid onset and intense effects while claiming less respiratory irritation. Dab detractors say the smoke is very hot and worry that rapid onset near a hot nail invites mishaps. I'm in the process of gathering more data on the phenomenon.



Dabs are hot!

Dab fans emphasize the rapid onset and intense effects.

What do you make of the number of marijuana arrests going down last year?

*A. Moore*

Hi A.,  
The FBI's latest report indicates that cops made 757,969 arrests for marijuana-related offenses in 2011. All I can say is, that's still 757,969 *too many!* But in 2010, there were 853,838 arrests, so we're headed in the right direction. Many attribute the decline to marijuana-law changes in individual states.

I applaud everyone who has worked so hard to get medical cannabis and decriminalization laws on the books. But a lot of the difference stems from more enlightened decisions by individual members of law enforcement. I thank these men and women heartily! \*

*Dr. Mitch Earleywine is an associate professor of psychology at SUNY Albany and the author of Understanding Marijuana and The Parents' Guide to Marijuana.*



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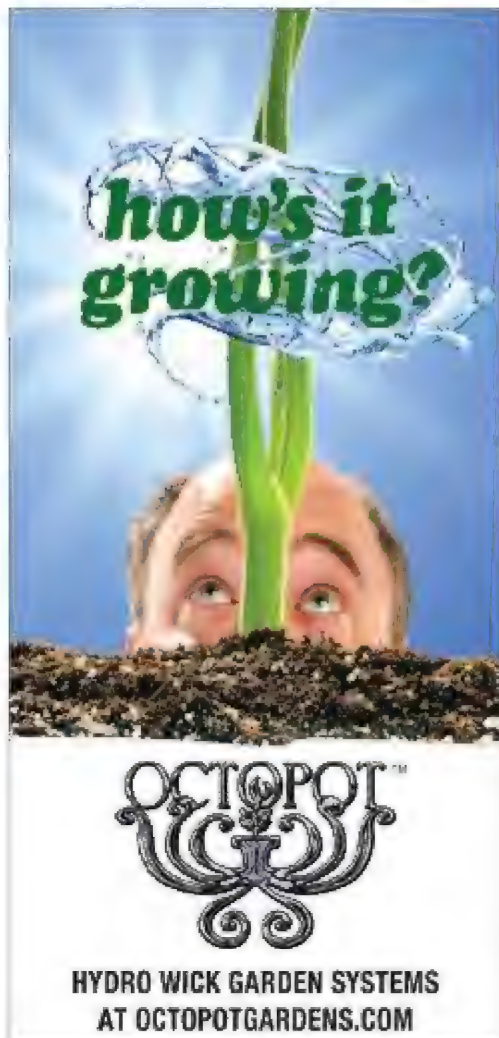
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## An Even Newer, Truer Story of 420?

**A**t the end of 1990, there were three of us at an impromptu lunch-time gathering: Steve Bloom (then *HT*'s part-time news editor), an anonymous Deadhead passing through town, and me. I provided the joint and, as we passed it around in a circle, Bloom handed me a flyer he'd picked up at a Grateful Dead show in Oakland a few days earlier. The flyer was designed to pull people from the East Bay over to the top of Mount Tam to get stoned on April 20 at 4:20 pm—an event that was still months away. “The grand master of all holidays ... you must get the day off work or school,” commanded the flyer.

Bloom thought the whole thing was hilarious and somewhat absurd, but I had a different opinion. See, I was investigating the ceremonial history of cannabis at the time, as well as its use as a religious sacrament.

“This is obviously a manifestation of the spiritual powers of cannabis,” I said in a hushed tone. That’s because I’d been to the Bay Area at the height of the counterculture, and I knew Mount Tam was the equivalent of Mount Fuji or Mount Sinai. And the fact that people were planning to meet there to worship cannabis at a certain time was proof the counterculture was a gestating spirituality that I felt had not yet been fully birthed, mostly due to political oppression. “I’m organizing all my future events around 420,” I continued, thinking mostly about the Cannabis Cup at that moment—although, in fact, I held my first official 420 ceremony later that day, and would continue to do so for most of my years at *High Times*.

A few months later, Bloom printed selections from that flyer in the news section—a small, insignificant item dominated by a goofy stoner face with a giant joint in his mouth, a cartoon provided by *HT*'s art director. I was pretty disappointed, since I’d been hoping Bloom would quote me about the spiritual and numerological implications, as well as the fact that all *High Times* events would now be organized with 420 as a central theme. Instead, it seemed my eureka moment had been awarded zero credibility.

Around six years later, I got an email from Mike Esterson, the Cup’s producer, concerning a group in San Francisco claiming to have originated 420. The thing I liked most about that initial email was the group’s assurance

they weren’t looking to extort money, but only wanted 420 Tours and the Cannabis Cup to know how the whole 420 code had started. At that time, 420 Tours had the biggest website using 420, which is why the Waldos had reached out to them. After six years, the Cannabis Cup had become the center of energy on 420—and because it was a global event, the holiday had been spreading around the world like a virus.

I spent a few days with the Waldos, retracing their steps and examining their evidence, which was considerable and included postmarked letters and other material that could be dated conclusively to the early 1970s. When I returned to the office, I showed highlights from the video I shot and began working on an article detailing why the Waldos were the true creators of 420.

Meanwhile—wouldn’t you know it?—Bloom had started a campaign to kill my story, claiming the Waldos were fakes! So imagine my surprise when, a few years back, Bloom was quoted in a *Huffington Post* declaring that the Waldos were, in fact, the true originators of 420. At the same time, he also insisted that the code had been spread primarily through the Grateful Dead and that *High Times* had little to do with it.

Unfortunately, that concession didn’t last long, since in the fall of 2012, Bloom wrote a new account of the origin of 420, claiming that the Waldos stole the term from a fellow student at San Rafael High School, a person who supposedly took a bong hit one day in 1970 and then uttered the words, “Four score and twenty years ago ....”

Only one problem: This new person claiming to have been there at the birth of 420 has not one shred of evidence to back up his story. It’s hilarious how Bloom and I have become so entwined in the history of 420, constantly bickering over the details and never agreeing on much of anything. Not too long ago, a graffiti artist from Florida visited me and said (with great conviction) that he’d originated the tag “Stay High 149”—the most famous tag in graffiti history. This artist was so convincing and so self-assured that I actually gave him the benefit of the doubt for a while. But before long, I came to my senses and realized that the dude didn’t have an iota of proof to back up his claim. And this is the territory Bloom finds himself in today as the anniversary of our stoner holiday rolls around. ✱





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## Jenna-ration Gap

For some, part of becoming an adult means leaving the adult industry behind.

**A** SA VERY happily married man, I have little need for pornography anymore. Back in my bachelor days, however, I accumulated quite a collection—including several years of *Playboys*, some 30 DVDs and over 100 VHS tapes (yes, I'm *that* old). So it was a real thrill for me when I covered the 2006 Adult Video News Awards in Las Vegas, where I got to meet many of the industry's superstars (including Ron Jeremy, Jenna Haze and Tera Patrick), with one very notable exception: the "Queen of Porn" herself, Jenna Jameson.

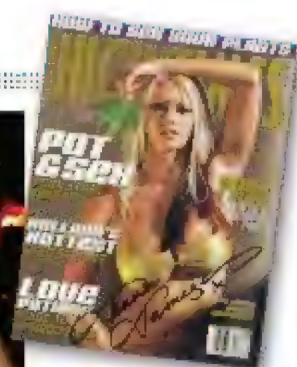
Though not a big pothead, Jenna had done an interview with *High Times* back in 2001, posing for not one but two of our covers—both of which I'd brought to AVN with me for her to sign. But since she only made a brief appearance at the convention (and was mobbed by fans the entire time), I never had the chance to meet her. As luck would have it, I got another opportunity last fall when Jenna hosted the seventh anniversary party of Headquarters Gentlemen's Club on New York City's West Side.

I must admit, even when I was single, I was never that into strip clubs. Sure, I enjoyed ogling sexy women as much as—if not more than—the next guy, but throwing wads of hard-earned cash at a bunch of ditzy dancers with daddy issues was never my cup of tea. Nevertheless, I have been to a few titty bars in my day, and of all the places I've patronized, Headquarters is definitely one of the coolest and classiest. In fact, they even rented us their private room upstairs to throw an epic, 420-friendly joint *High Times/Penthouse* Ganja Goddess party back in 2005—a sexy, smoky soiree that remains the stuff of legend to this day. So, obviously, getting on the guest list for their anniversary wouldn't be a problem.

I got to the club just before 10 p.m. and hooked up with Adam, their marketing manager, who bought me a brew and bullshitted with me while we waited for Jenna to show. She arrived around half an hour later and, as I expected, was immediately spirited to the VIP booth in the back by the main stage. I chilled at the bar until the initial hubbub died down, then casually



With Jenna Jameson in NYC.



headed back to say "high." To my surprise, Jenna seemed genuinely pleased to meet me and was far

more down-to-earth than I'd imagined. We chatted for some time about how much fun she had doing the shoot for us, and ended up bonding over something we have in common: Jenna and I—both soon approaching the big 4-0—have evolved to new stages in our lives, leaving behind the wild times of our youths and shifting our focus to family.

"I'm a full-time mom now," Jameson told me. "My main job now is taking care of my twins, and I love it." (By her "twins," she was referring to her children, not her breasts—you perverts!) I knew she'd retired from acting and dancing; what I didn't realize was that she'd also sold her multimillion-dollar production company/website, Club Jenna.

"So you're not involved in the adult industry at all anymore?" I asked.

"Nope," she answered. "I'm retired."

How retired is she? So much so that, according to *FoxNews.com* the next day, she'd turned down an offer from a wealthy patron of a cool \$10,000 for just a 10-minute visit to the club's Champagne Room. Shit—for 10 large I'd have given him a lap dance, a hand job and even a ride home.

Several rounds of drinks, a dozen G-Pen hits, a few blurry photos and a signed magazine later, Jenna and I were bidding each other good night. It's funny: As a young man, I'd taken great pleasure in her sexy performances on-screen—and now, as a somewhat older man, I'd taken great pleasure in her company and conversation instead. Age sure does have a way of changing one's perspective and priorities. As for that big porn collection of mine ... well, I'm thinking of putting it up for sale. So if you're horny and still own a VCR, drop me a line. ✨





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# Sniffers and Snoopers

Cannabis prohibition has made America ripe for government abuses.

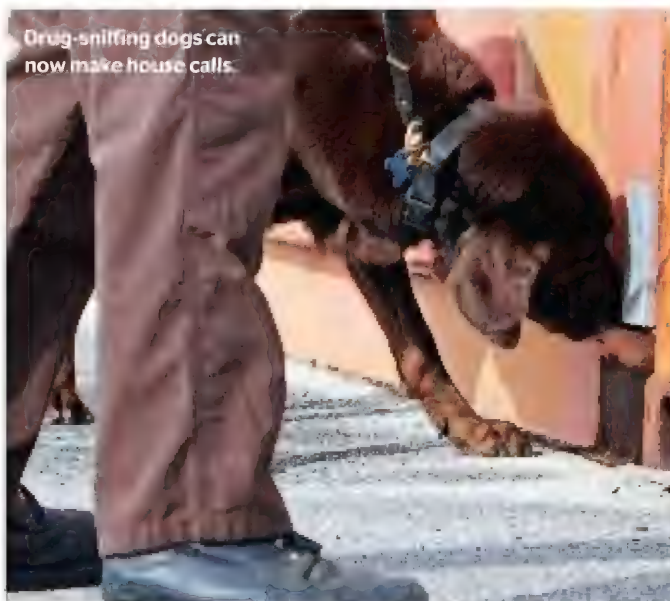
Allen St. Pierre is the executive director of NORML. Visit [norml.org](http://norml.org).

**O**f the many compelling reasons to end cannabis prohibition as soon as possible—personal liberty, medical access, religious tolerance, industrial hemp—one of the most important (as has been well documented in dozens of NORMLizer columns) is to stop providing the federal government with a prime excuse to invade the privacy of otherwise law-abiding citizens.

Drug testing, traffic stops, checkpoints, locker and luggage searches, aircraft and satellite surveillance, forward-looking infrared radar (FLIR), gamma busters and the numerous other privacy-destroying cases and technologies used by law enforcement have all been explored and criticized in *High Times* over the years. Here are two more examples taken from recent Supreme Court decisions that should provide an even stronger impetus for all of us to work together—and work smarter—to end prohibition.

Late in October, the Supreme Court heard an important search-and-seizure case (*Florida v. Jardines*) centered on the question of whether the police, with no warrant or probable cause, can use drug-detection dogs to sniff a private homeowner's front door or walk them through any apartment building, mobile-home park or fraternity/sorority house.

The government argued that dogs are not an “invasive” technology and



that police should be able to walk them up to someone's front door as easily as a US Postal Service employee or pizza-delivery person can do—if only to smell the air around the door, for which they argue citizens have no expectation of privacy. If the Supreme Court rules in favor of the government in this case, expect the police to declare open season on thousands of cannabis consumers and cultivators nationwide.

The second case, *US. v. Mendoza and Magana*, comes out of Wisconsin and involves the DEA, which wanted to find out if two men were growing cannabis on their heavily wooded property.

Disregarding the locked gates and clearly posted “no trespassing” signs, the DEA agents entered the property and set up covert digital surveillance cameras (the kind that are often used by hunters to observe game trails and animal movements). This invasion of the men's private property was apparently successful, netting photos of them allegedly harvesting over 1,000 cannabis plants. Ironically, this is an amount of cannabis regularly

found in medical cannabis cooperative gardens in over a dozen states today—and yet the two now face life in prison for the supposed “crime” of growing plants. If the appellate courts affirm this decision, government agents will be permitted to enter a private property and plant electronic surveillance devices that can transmit real-time data on the activities of its inhabitants.

This is why we must end cannabis prohibition in this country once and for all. Otherwise, these government abuses will only increase and our beautiful Constitution will end up as “collateral damage” in the senseless War on Drugs. 🌿

## FREEDOM FIGHTER

by Erik Altieri, NORML communications coordinator

### Alison-tastic!

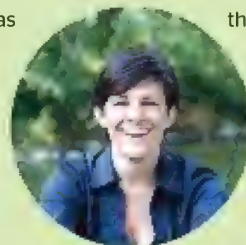
Alison Holcomb guides her state to legalization.

This November, Washington and Colorado became the first two states in the nation to pass voter measures legalizing the adult use of marijuana. And the success of the effort in the Evergreen State was thanks in no small part to the work of Initiative 502's intelligent and politically savvy campaign director, Alison Holcomb.

Holcomb assumed her position working with I-502 after taking a

brief hiatus from her job as drug-policy director for the ACLU of Washington, where she's worked on national drug-law reform issues for the last seven years.

Before joining the ACLU in 2006, Alison defended people accused of marijuana offenses in state and federal courts for more than a decade. She is a past vice president of the Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and served on the panel



that studied the implementation of Initiative 75, the Seattle measure making cannabis-related offenses the lowest law-enforcement priority in the city.

Alison was a key player on the ground during the effort to pass I-502, guiding the campaign's media relations and serving as one of its public faces, as well as seeing to all of the essential work required behind the scenes. Thanks to her guidance, I-502

won the support of a large swath of the voting public, including the all-important female demographic, whose support for marijuana-law reform has typically lagged behind that of men. Alison's efforts—along with those of everyone else who participated in the campaign—have moved mountains and elevated the status of marijuana-law reform in the national discussion. And the result is legal marijuana for adults in Washington.

On behalf of the marijuana community, we'd like to say: Thanks!



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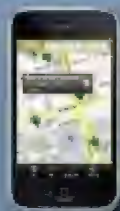


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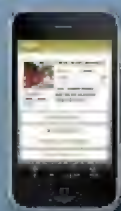
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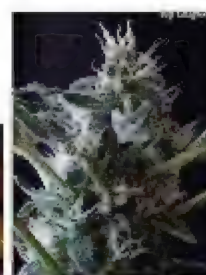


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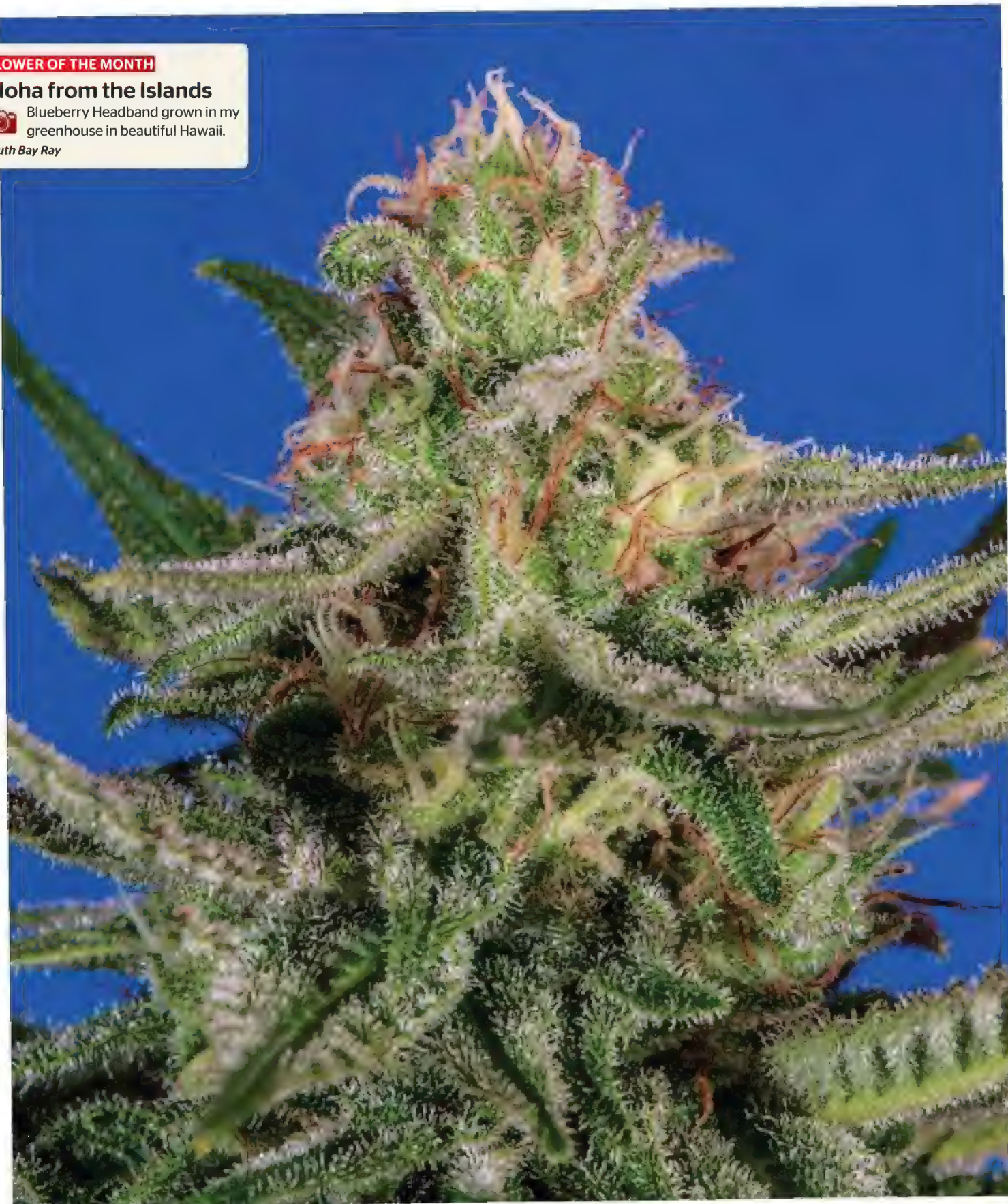
## FLOWER OF THE MONTH

### Aloha from the Islands



Blueberry Headband grown in my greenhouse in beautiful Hawaii.

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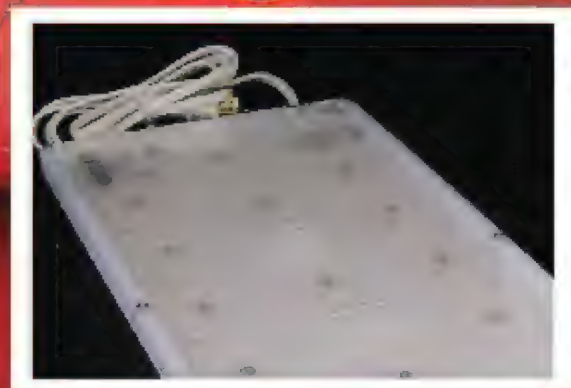


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**CLOSE-UP OF THE MONTH**

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## GARDEN OF THE MONTH


## Wall of Weed

 This strain is a crossbreed of my Snowberry and White Widow and I call it Tricialishes. It is very strong and the high superior. I thank you very much for this as *ommg.org* is my cannabis research and development company with 18 types and one new strain in the world. These beautiful plants are grown outdoors in Oregon, and the strain is about 15 yrs old. *Homegrown by Hillbilly*



## GROWER OF THE MONTH


## Budstache

 Check out the size of this crazy cola from Ohio! Growing your own is so much fun! *Jamie K.*



## NUG OF THE MONTH

## Blast Mask

 Here's a shot of our "organic-growing family" in Bakersfield, CA. Subject in photo: Ryan Jones. *Heather Bryan*





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Auto-flowering

Flowering: 9 weeks from seed  
Yield: 35 grams + per plant  
Characteristics: Exotic taste,  
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100% Female  
Auto-flowering

Flowering: 9 weeks from seed  
Yield: 45 grams + per plant  
Characteristics: Saturated  
in crystals

#### GOLIATH

100% Female  
Auto-flowering

Flowering: 9 weeks from seed  
Yield: 35 grams + per plant  
Characteristics: Large  
light buds

#### COLLOSUS

100% Female  
Auto-flowering

Flowering: 9 weeks from seed  
Yield: 55 grams + per plant  
Characteristics: Huge yields  
on a single cola

#### HERCULES

100% Female  
Auto-flowering

Flowering: 9 weeks from seed  
Yield: 55 grams + per plant  
Characteristics: Bushy plant,  
large light buds

#### CYCLOPS

100% Female  
Auto-flowering

Flowering: 9 weeks from seed  
Yield: 50 grams + per plant  
Characteristics: Bushy  
resin-encrusted buds

#### TITAN

100% Female  
Auto-flowering

Flowering: 9 weeks from seed  
Yield: 35 grams + per plant  
Characteristics: Dense blue  
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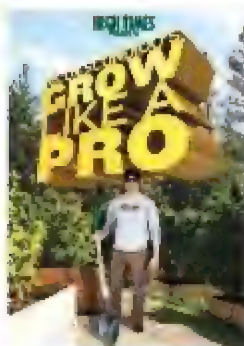
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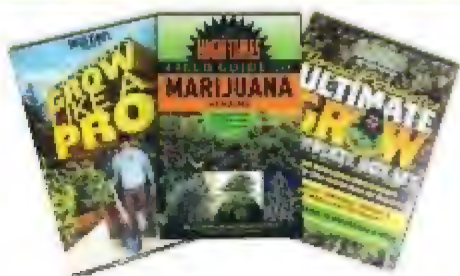
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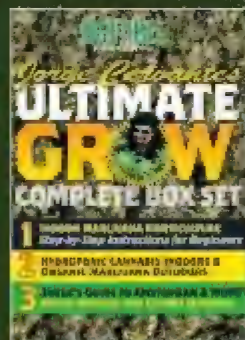
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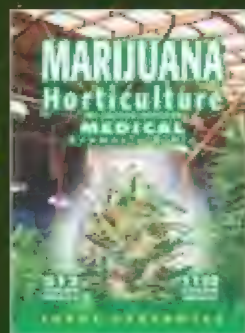
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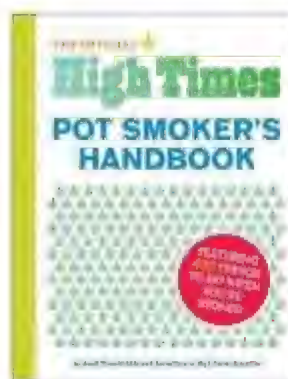
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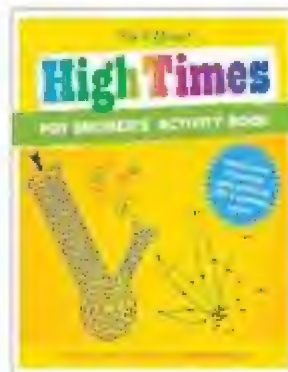
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**1 Mason Tvert** Legalized it!! Congratulations Colorado & the campaign to regulate marijuana like alcohol

**2 Congrats Alison Holcomb, Rick Steves & all involved in 1-502** Pot is legal in Washington state!

**3 Free Weed**

**4 Hazy Art** Hilly Chic 2012

**5 Medical marijuana states (& DC) and counting**

**6 FUCK SPIDER MITES**

**7 FREE MARG**

**8 Jen's Music Stash** Hightimes.com/TheStash

**9 Smoke 2 Joints @ 8:40**

**10 hey you! Bruce** we love you and the memory of you Jan 1, 1962 - Mar 10, 2010

**11 "I inhaled frequently. That was the point."** ~ President Barack Obama

**12 Reggie Watts A Live At Central Park**

**13 Jen's Music Stash** Hightimes.com/TheStash

**14 TOP HAT CHICKEN**

**15 Willie Nelson** is America's grandpa

**16 Willie Nelson** on raising paper

**17 Dime Bags!**

**18 Why is marijuana against the law? It grows naturally upon our planet. Doesn't the idea of making nature against the law seem to you a bit... unnatural?** ~ BILL MAHER

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**25 CURES NOT WARS** Thank you Dana Beal!

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**27 SATCHMO Loved the green**

**28 RESCHEDULE CANNABIS**

**29 Write to POT Prisoners**

**30 One good thing about music, when it hits you feel no pain.** ~ Bob Marley

**31 GO BONGHITTERS** IS IT SPRING TRAINING YET?

**32 The Emperor Wears No Clothes**

**33 Woke up this morning, thought I had the measles, so I laid back down and hit the sour diesel.**

**34**

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**37**

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**40**

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